

The Leader

"THE one idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—HUMBOLDT'S COSMOS.

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No. 5.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 1850.

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News of the Week.

THE delegates of the Reform Conference have assembled in London, have settled their plans, and finished off with a soirée. The conference, it seems, is to end in the establishment of an agitating machinery, with its staff and fund, after the fashion of the Anti-Corn-Law League. But, as we showed last week, the objects and circumstances of the new movement are of a very different character; and the same machinery is not at all likely to produce equivalent results. The delegates came to town with predetermined plans, and our suggestion that they should enlarge the scope of their movement by including the People is answered by reference to their instructions; also by Mr. Bright's argument, that the sort of compromise between an effective course and a do-nothing policy will "conciliate" the timid, and render the movement "slow and safe." We have no faith in such counsel, and scarcely believe that Mr. Bright himself has any. Of all his party he is the man whom we should point out as showing the traits of the sturdiest and most vigorous disposition; and, if the movement had taken a more energetic form, we should have expected to see him throw himself boldly into the van. We hardly despair yet. John Bright is scarcely the man to be content with a hackney-coach pace in political movement. Nor is the Conference likely to be quite fruitless. Its tendency seems to be to resolve itself into rather a large and cumbrous machinery for promoting the Freehold Land Movement.

It certainly has caused no stimulating alarm to Parliament, which has continued its jog-trot course of weekly drudgery. Ministers have been busy over a few Bills, with more or less of progress, and some elemosynary contributions by strangers. In the Stamp Duties Bill, Sir Charles Wood compromises the difference with Sir Henry Willoughby, adopting Sir Henry's one shilling scale of duties on small amounts, but gradually increasing it till he arrives at his own half-crown scale on larger amounts. In the slow process of Committee on the Australian Colonies Bill, a suggestion volunteered by Mr. Roebuck, to include a provision for defining boundaries of Australian Colonies, is caught at as a windfall by Ministers. It is not only a practical improvement on their curious sample of legislation, but it half affiliates the measure to Mr. Roebuck, and may help to disarm that troublesome critic. Mr. Page Wood's Affirmation Bill has been thrown out; not, however, by a large majority. So has Mr. Monckton Milnes's Bill for improving the treatment of Juvenile Offenders by rendering it more summary.

In the House of Lords some dreamy Protectionists, the Duke of Richmond and the Earl of Malmsbury, have been reviving the discussion on

their doctrine with lugubrious allusions to low prices. The Lords also are engaged in pruning the salaries of their own servants.

The Parliamentary event of the week is Lord John Russell's announcement of a Royal Commission to inquire into the management of the universities. This is a mode of staving off Mr. Heywood's motion. He proposed a royal commission with specific objects; Lord John Russell announces a royal commission with unspecified, perhaps indefinite, objects; Mr. Heywood withdraws his motion, and of course the inquiry is left in a more manageable shape for official trimming.

Out of doors the week has not been eventful. The most notable fact is the new decision on the Gorham case. The Bishop of Exeter had demurred to Mr. Gorham's right of carrying an appeal from the Court of Arches to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council; an old statute pointing out the Upper House of Convocation as the right court of appeal. The question came before the Court of Queen's Bench, and it has been decided against the Bishop. The new judgment was delivered by Lord Campbell—one of the Judicial Committee whose judgment is impugned, and a party to that singular correspondence with Miss Sellon which we noticed last week! Lord Campbell delivered the judgment ex-officio; but it is a "curious coincidence," and one not calculated to add weight to the judgment. Meanwhile, the agitation in the Church continues unabated; and we see signs of its spreading to new quarters. Even among Dissenters there are strange symptoms just now.

The foreign journals are filled with the ceremonial of the Pope's return to Rome. The rejoicings could not be got up. It is clear that no real satisfaction has been manifested by the people, though that notable ally of the Church, the liberated convict Genaraccio, offered to enroll two thousand of his fellows to draw the carriage of Pio Nono in triumph to the Capitol. There was, of course, some shouting, paid for by the clergy; some illumination, compelled by the police; on the road to Rome men were said to have flung themselves before the horses of his Holiness, as in sacrifice to some adorable Juggernaut. But it would seem the prostration was only that of a few capuchins. In juxtaposition with these tokens is "an attempt to fire the Quirinal," the arrest of "hostages" for the Papal safety, and loud murmurings, even of French soldiers, at being compelled to kneel before the Pontiff. The "wickedest rabble" (sceleratissima canaglia)—as a proclamation in the *Roman Gazette* politely styles the Republicans—are not yet hungering for the Papal benediction. The French army changes its name from "expeditionary" to that of "occupation." Truly it must occupy Rome if the "Restoration" is to be maintained.

The Angers accident is made use of by the

French Socialists: the indomitable Proudhon and others laying that loss of life at the doors of a suspicious Government. But for governmental fears, the battalion of the eleventh Regiment had not been ordered to quit the ordinary route. Any way the accident happens unluckily for the men in power. The first few army votes yet counted on are in favour of Eugène Sue. The war is hot between him and his opponent. The Conservative journals contrast his extravagant mode of life with his avowal of Communism: his friends retort by denying the heroism of the champion of order, M. Leclerc. The *Presse* and the *National* are at variance; The Government is beaten by the Assembly. M. Baroche is not to be allowed to make his new law of transportation retrospective, however politic it might be to remove the condemned of May and June. M. Baroche is too bad even for Odilon Barrot. Rumours of a coup d'état continue. The Government, questioned therewith, answers, that it would punish any who hinted at such a course. So it seizes, not the *Na poléon*, which had broadly suggested the necessity, but the *National*, which only denounced the inaction. Electoral meetings are prohibited in the department of the Saône-et-Loire, because the candidates, being strangers, are not "entitled to hold a meeting." One would think there was the more necessity for their addressing their constituents. Even the orderly M. de Laroche aquelin is subjected to the same rule at Paris. M. Thiers, disgusted, is "going to Italy," possibly to receive absolution from the Pope. Dissension seems to be the order of the day. Not even in the President's own family is there any concord: the Prince of Canino opposed the French *en état armé* at Rome; Napoleon Bonaparte is one of the most implacable of the Reds; Picre quarrels with the President; Lucien deserts him. In amiable contrast with this divided family appears the report of a reconciliation between the elder and younger branches of the Bourbons. The Counts of Neilly and Chambord are to embrace, to forgive and to forget, Louis Philippe being only anxious to renew his violated oath of allegiance to Henri Cinq. A similar happy reunion is to be accomplished at Madrid on the auspicious occasion, the birth of an "heir" to Spain.

The Erfurt Parliament is still in existence. The two houses have adopted the Constitution en bloc, notwithstanding the opposition of the Prussian Government, which advised a previous revision of its own scheme, in order that "all dangers may be avoided." There seems no danger, however, of anything serious, whatever course may be adopted; for Prussia knows well that the whole affair will amount to nothing. If the Assembly should evince any sign of strength, it will be immediately dissolved, unless Prussia can find other means to escape, such as the timely withdrawal of some of the larger governments of the League. Meanwhile the Constitutionalists are

having their allowance of talk. They have completed the fundamental laws for Germany, and defined the bounds of civil and religious liberty,—the latter embracing full liberty of faith and conscience, no religious disabilities, no State church, nor need for new sects of recognition by the State. If any gain may accrue from Erfurt, it will consist in this quasi-proclamation of free principles, which will not be forgotten by the people.

To add to the complication of affairs in Prussia, symptoms of recusancy are shown by the clergy, who refuse to swear unreservedly to the constitution. How Prussia should see her way out of the general entanglement, might be a grave question, if confusion were not the very policy of the Cabinet. To bewilder, to mislead, to prevent action, to hinder everything but retrogression, is everywhere, whether at Frankfort, or Erfurt, in Posen, Germany, or Denmark, the very aim to which Prussian diplomacy is bent. So the Danish question remains unsettled. Greece, too, is no nearer to an arrangement. Nay, it is said, further off than ever. The Bosnian insurrection continues,—a fight of the upper classes against reforms proposed by the Porte. The unconquered Circassians are remustering their forces for the Holy War against Russia. The Powers are threatening, if the Swiss Government will not find Mazzini, to come in and look for him themselves. Disquietude, dread, and anarchy: such are the prevalent symptoms of the state of Europe. If in the midst of this disorder, trade seems partially revived, it is, perhaps, because even disorder has become regular, a thing of course; and so men go about less nervously, even as those who are accustomed to live in the neighbourhood of a volcano. Some day comes the eruption.

PARLIAMENT.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

The adverse vote of the House of Commons on the Stamp Duties Bill has caused the Chancellor of the Exchequer to modify his measure, in the hope of getting it passed in such a form as will prevent the revenue from suffering. On Monday evening, Sir CHARLES WOOD stated that if the actual rule of the House were carried out, reducing the duties on all deeds not exceeding 50*l.*, to 1*s.* instead of 2*s. 6d.* as he had proposed, the loss to the revenue would be so great that he should be obliged to abandon the bill altogether. With a view therefore, to make up for this loss, he proposed a new scale of duties, which would be the same as the one adopted by the House last week—1*s.* in all deeds under 50*l.*; and then, instead of proceeding at the same rate of 2*s. 6d.* per cent. on all sums above 50*l.*, to rise by 1*s. 6d.* on every 25*l.* up to deeds of 200*l.* value, on which the duty would consequently be 10*s.*, and to carry it uniformly up from that amount to 100,000*l.* at one fourth per cent. or 5*s.* per 100*l.* He also proposed to adopt a limit, confining the maximum duty to that which was payable on borrowing 100,000*l.* *M.*, namely, 250*l.*

The following table will show the difference between Sir Charles Wood's scheme and the one adopted by the House:—

Amount of Bond.	The new Scale, proposed by Sir C. WOOD.	The Scale adopted by the House.
£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
50	0 1 0	0 1
75	0 2 5	0 2
100	0 3 0	0 2
125	0 5 6	0 3
150	0 7 0	0 3
175	0 7 6	0 4
200	0 1 0	0 4
500	1 5 0	0 10
1,000	2 10 0	1 0
5,000	12 10 0	5 0
10,000	23 0 0	10 0
20,000	50 0 0	20 0
50,000	125 0 0	50 0
100,000	250 0 0	100 0
An amount at the same rate for all higher values.	And so on, in proportion to the values.	And so on, in proportion to the values.

The House having gone into committee on the Australian Colonies' Government Bill, some discussion took place respecting the subject of waste. In settling one or two clauses: On the lands, Lord JOHN RUSSELL explained that the bill would leave matters as they are at present. Mr. ROEBUCK insisted upon the propriety of defining more distinctly what belongs to the colonies. They lay a line between Victoria and New South Wales, where they would have these colonies would give them full control over the defined area; but all lands outside they got their General Assembly, considered as the appanage of the Crown. Mr. J. B. SMITH thought that a very great mistake had been made in giving Canada the control of 10*s.* Our policy has been just the reverse of that which the United States have pursued. This makes our colonies so burdensome to

us. Sir JAMES GRAHAM thought Mr. Roebuck's suggestion a very excellent one. It would be the certain means of preventing much confusion and angry discussion. After some remarks from various members, the subject was left over for further discussion.

The provision for the establishment of four State Churches in the Australian colonies naturally provoked some discussion. At present certain sums are appropriated to the maintenance of the Church of England, the Roman Catholic, the Presbyterian, and the Wesleyan Churches. These sums the bill proposes to leave undisturbed; but, if the colonies should wish to alter the present disposition of those sums, they cannot do so without her Majesty's consent. Mr. CHARLES LUSHINGTON strongly opposed the clause relating to religious worship. This was the very question on which the colonists would feel most strongly inclined to resent interference. He moved the omission of the clause. Mr. LABOUCHERE held that encouragement to religious communities is a great benefit; he should, therefore, much regret any resolution which would disturb the harmony at present existing. Mr. BRIGHT thought the best way to obtain harmony would be to take away all causes of discord, and the wisest step for that purpose would be to follow the example of the United States. What necessity can there be for Parliament to provide for the religious teaching of the Australian colonies, when the United States leaves its new colonies, which are continually growing up, to manage that matter for themselves? The House having divided, the amendment was negatived by 203 to 54. The Chairman then reported progress.

Mr. JAMES HEYWOOD brought forward his annual motion, on Tuesday evening, for an address to the Crown, praying that her Majesty would issue a committee of inquiry into the state of the Universities and Colleges of Oxford, Cambridge, and Dublin, with a view to the adaptation of these institutions to the requirement of modern times. The reforms which he was anxious to see effected were, the adoption of a more liberal system of admission to the universities, a less exclusive management of the university libraries, a fairer distribution of rewards of scientific and literary merit, the liberty of tutors to marry, the removal of obstacles to the registration of electors, the placing of additional checks on the extravagance of students, and a change in the tenure of college property, especially in Ireland. As a specimen of the bigotry which still exists in Trinity College, Dublin, he mentioned that a person was employed, at a salary of £50 a year, to perform the odious office of pointing out those who "avoided." As for the matriculation test, he never saw a greater farce in his life than the signature of the Thirty-nine Articles at Oxford. It was the duty of Parliament to put an end to this.

Sir ROBERT INGLIS denied the right of Parliament to interfere with the spiritual affairs of the universities in any respect; and even with regard to secular matters the case ought to be very clear before Parliament interfered. Much was said about the careless manner in which the Thirty-nine Articles are subscribed; but he had the authority of one college tutor for saying, that a large majority of those students whom he examined, previously to their subscribing the Articles, were as well prepared to answer him as many of those who were candidates for holy orders. A demand was made for a more liberal system of admission to the universities, which were accused of upholding a monopoly:—

"It was true that the state gave to the universities a monopoly of education, but how did the universities repay this boon? Considering those universities as the great nurseries of the church, they repaid the boon by preparing, and passing as through a sieve, the young men who were candidates for holy orders; and he should regret to see any measure adopted, which, by lowering the standard of general education, might throw into the church men less highly qualified for their important office than those who were at present its ministers. There had been no Prime Minister of this country during the last century, with the exception of the noble Lord opposite (Lord J. Russell), who had not been a member and an ornament of one of the two universities. Among the statesmen educated at Oxford had been Lord Chatham, Mr. Fox, Lord North, Lord Sidmouth, Lord Grenville, and Mr. Canning. A right honourable friend of his (Sir R. Peel), who was not then present, had been the first man who gained a double first-class honour in the University of Oxford. His right honourable friend and colleague (Mr. Gladstone) attained a similar honour; as did also the First Lord of the Admiralty and the Chancellor of the Exchequer. One of the peculiar features of the English universities, and which distinguished them from the German and Scotch universities, was the requirement of residence—he might almost say of domestication; and he considered that any interruption of that system would be seriously injurious. The object of the universities was to afford a liberal and comprehensive education, which might fit men for discharging the various duties of life. The universities had fulfilled that duty with a grateful sense of the favours which had enabled them to perform its favours which they owed not to Kings and Parliaments, but to the piety and liberality of private benefactors; and it would be to him a subject of the greatest regret if his noble friend (Lord J. Russell) gave his sanction to

this motion, which hazarded the continuance of a system that now for many centuries had contributed so largely to the reputation of England, to the advantage of social life, to the improvement of literature, and to the advancement of religion."

Mr. G. S. FORTESCUE supported the motion. There is a strong spirit of reform in the universities, but it is shackled by obsolete systems, and it is the duty of the state to come to its relief. Mr. FAGAN pointed out the gross mismanagement of the revenues of Dublin University by the senior, and expressed a hope that, under the sanction of the Crown, Parliament would effect a thorough reformation in Trinity College. Colonel THOMPSON demurred to the doctrine laid down by Sir Robert Inglis, that Parliament has no right to interfere with the spiritual affairs of the universities. By the compact between the Church and the State it is provided that the doctrines of the Church shall be those held by the majority of the people. When the doctrines taught by the Church are found to differ widely from those held by the majority of the nation, then Parliament has a right to step in and say what shall be done with the revenues.

Lord JOHN RUSSEL could not support the motion, combining, as it did, so many questions, and placing them in a form which made the motion a complete bill of indictment against the universities. Still he recognised the deficiencies of the system of education pursued at our universities, and he stated that it was the intention of Ministers to advise the Crown to issue a Royal Commission to inquire into the revenues and education of the two universities.

Mr. GOULBURN regretted the decision to which Ministers had come. The Royal Commission would be more than useless,—it would be positively pernicious.

Mr. HEYWOOD deemed the announcement of so much importance, that he withdrew his motion.

Mr. ROUNDEN PALMER complained that the announcement of the intention to issue a commission was so sudden that they had not had time to consider it. He conceived that the commission would be an illegal one. He moved the adjournment of the debate.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL supported the adjournment. As to the legality of the Commission, he had no doubt on that head.

The House having divided on the question of adjournment, the numbers were—For it, 273; against it, 31; majority, 242. Accordingly, the debate was adjourned.

A discussion on the working of free trade occupied the House of Lords during the greater part of Tuesday evening. The Earl of MALMESBURY opened the debate by moving for—

"A return of the imports of wheat and wheat-flour, also of barley and oats, into the United Kingdom, in each week since the 1st of January, 1850, and of the average prices of each week; and also for the return of the total amount imported within the same period, distinguishing the countries from which imported."

He implored their lordships to look at the dangerous and deplorable condition of the agricultural interest. The most melancholy result of the free trade measures is the change which it has wrought in the feelings of the farmers. They are now beginning to find fault with the British constitution, and to grumble at the pressure of taxation. They only get 3*s.* for their wheat, instead of 5*s.*; and yet the "taxes they pay are as heavy as ever." They now begin to say:—"Is it fair to ask us to pay the same amount of fixed salaries and annuities as we did before our property was depreciated; is it fair that we should pay the same amount of interest to the public creditors as before?" The Duke of RICHMOND hoped the farmers would remain firm in their loyalty; but it was impossible that they could continue to pay the taxes. It was unfair to single out the agricultural interest as an object of plunder, whilst the public creditor and all other classes were left in possession of their property. Nothing short of protection will do, unless the great bulk of the property and the taxation of the country are to be swept away. Unfortunately the right reverend Prelates have fixed incomes; they cannot be touched; but the farmers complain bitterly that they are compelled to pay the composition on an average price of 5*s.* per quarter. The Marquis of LANSDOWNE declined entering upon a discussion of the question which the Duke of Richmond had opened up. He thought the present depressed state of agriculture was an exceptional state of things, and did not furnish a fair ground for calling upon the Legislature to review its free-trade policy. Lord STANLEY concluded, from what the Marquis of Lansdowne had said, that prices were lower than the Government desired. If the present low prices of produce should prove not to be exceptional, but permanent, as he believed they would, the Government must admit that the experiment had failed, and must be expected to retrace their steps. Earl GREY reminded Lord Stanley of the answer with which that nobleman had always met the complaints of the hand-loom weavers, that Parliament could not determine the rate of wages. The same answer would apply to those who came with complaints of the low prices of grain. Parliament



cannot prevent wheat from becoming cheap.—The motion was ultimately agreed to.

The Juvenile Offenders Bill was thrown out on the second reading, in the House of Commons, on Wednesday, after a brief discussion. Mr. MONCKTON MILNES, who moved the second reading of the bill, said it was mainly founded on the report of a committee appointed by the House of Lords in 1847. The evidence given before that committee shewed the frightful extent to which juvenile crime prevails; and the report, after advertizing to the contaminating effects of a gaol, recommended the adoption of a reformatory asylum with corporal punishment. The bill proceeded on the principle of increasing parental responsibility in cases of juvenile crime, and contemplated the establishment of reformatory asylums. The bill was opposed by Sir GEORGE GREY, on the ground that it gave a most objectionable latitude to magisterial jurisdiction, and because the machinery it provided for enforcing the pecuniary liability of parents would involve parishes in litigation and expence. Mr. GEORGE STRICKLAND, who concurred in the objections mentioned by Sir George Grey, moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months. The amendment was carried without a division.

The Affirmation Bill, which ought to have gone into committee on the same evening, was also thrown out. Last session the House of Commons sanctioned the principle on which this bill was founded,—that of giving relief to those persons who have a religious and conscientious objection to taking an oath. But Mr. GOULBURN did not think the fact that the House had done wrong last session was any reason why it should now persist in error, and as he was opposed to the bill altogether, he moved as an amendment that it be committed that day six months. The House having divided, the amendment was carried by 148 against 129. The bill was consequently lost.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of the Securities for Advances (Ireland) Bill took place on Thursday. Several Irish members opposed it on the ground that it would act injuriously on the present landed proprietors. Lord NASS complained that the bill offered advantages to the new proprietors which were never enjoyed by their predecessors. The real object of the measure appeared to be to prop up and perpetuate the action of the Encumbered Estates Bill, which had not fulfilled the intention of the Legislature. He considered it a step in the wrong direction! It enabled parties who bought estates to borrow half the purchase-money and secure the claim on the land. The course pursued by Government was very much like that taken with church property in France during the first revolution. The amount of property there was worth nearly £16,000,000, not much larger than would soon be in the market in Ireland, and the National Assembly passed a resolution by which they agreed to sell the lands to the highest bidder, but only a certain portion of the purchase-money was to be paid down, and a period of twelve years was to be given for the payment of the rest. The French Republican scheme was evidently intended to let in purchasers without money, and the same result would follow from the operation of the proposed bill for Ireland. Unless Ministers would pledge themselves to modify the measure, so as to extend the same privileges to the present landowners as those which it confers on the new proprietors, he would move that the bill be read a second time that day six months. Mr. F. FRENCH, who seconded the amendment, said the amount of property which changed hands annually in Ireland was said to be about £2,000,000 in value, but the immediate operation of the Encumbered Estates Bill would be to force sales to the amount of £20,000,000. The declared object of the bill under discussion was to bring purchasers into the market, but it must drive *bona fide* purchasers away; for no man would come forward with money to compete with these paper assignats. Mr. FAGAN supported the bill, on the ground that it would encourage English capitalists to invest their money in the purchase of Irish estates. Mr. H. J. BAILLIE characterised it as a measure for converting a certain portion of the land of Ireland into a circulating medium of exchange; in other words, to give to certain proprietors of land in Ireland a power of issuing exchequer bills on their property. They were told that land to the value of £20,000,000 was about to be forced into the market. This would give something like £10,000,000 as the amount of paper which would be issued; now what would be the effect of suddenly throwing that amount of exchequer bills into circulation? The SOLICITOR-GENERAL denied that the operation of this bill would be to reduce the value of land in Ireland. Its tendency would be to increase the number of persons anxious to invest their money in the purchase of Irish estates, and this would surely tend to raise the value of land rather than to depress it. The House having divided on the amendment, there appeared

For the second reading 186
Against it 41

Majority 145

The bill was ordered to be committed on Monday.

DEATH OF WILLIAM WORDSWORTH.

A few weeks ago the local papers announced that Wordsworth was seriously indisposed, but nothing was said which could lead any one to infer that he was dangerously ill. On Thursday the morning papers contained the always startling intelligence of his actual death. He died at noon on Tuesday, the 23rd of April, at his abode on Rydal Mount, on the banks of Windermere; a spot hallowed by his long residence there, in the eyes of many a literary pilgrim from other climes. Few men of that class from Germany or the United States ever came to England without visiting Rydal Mount.

William Wordsworth was born in the year 1770, at Cockermouth, in Cumberland. His parents were of the middle class, and he was educated, together with his brother, afterwards Dr. Wordsworth, at the Hawkshead Grammar School.

His first effort at poetical composition was made when he was thirteen years old, but it was ten years later before he appeared in print. In 1787 he entered St. John's College, Cambridge, where he graduated. Shortly afterwards he made a pedestrian tour in France, Switzerland, and Italy, of which the result was a volume of poems, entitled, *Descriptive Sketches in Verse*. This was accompanied by another poetical work, *Evening Walk*, an "Epistle to a young lady from the lakes in the north of England." The volume appeared in 1793, and at once arrested the attention of all who could relish genuine poetry.

Soon after he became an author he visited Paris; but was compelled by the "Reign of Terror" to return to England. He then made a pedestrian tour through England, and finally settled down for a time in a cottage in Alfordon, a picturesque valley near Nether Stowey, in Somersetshire. It was here that he began that intimacy with Coleridge, which so much influenced the subsequent intellectual life of both. One result of this sojourn in Somersetshire was the publication, in 1798, of a volume of poems, which he entitled *Lyrical Ballads*.

In the following year he went, accompanied by his sister, on a tour in Germany, where he was joined by Coleridge. The two poets were then comparatively unknown to the world, although the originality and the beauty of the little they had done had already riveted the attention of a few admirers.

In 1803 he married Miss Mary Hutchinson of Penrith, and shortly afterwards went to reside at Grasmere. In 1807 he published a second volume of the *Lyrical Ballads*, which were followed by a number of other poems at brief intervals. A few years after his marriage he received the appointment of Distributor of Stamps for Westmoreland and Cumberland, the salary of which, with the proceeds of his writings, enabled him to lead a calm, contented life, free from those pecuniary cares which so frequently embitter the existence of men of genius.

On the death of Southey he was nominated Poet Laureate. In this capacity he wrote an ode on the Queen's visit to Cambridge—his sole official effort.

REPORTED SAFETY OF SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.

A letter has been received from Captain Sawyers, of the Lord Hardinge, to his father, Mr. Sawyers, collector of Customs at Aberdeen, which contains a statement that Sir John Franklin is yet alive. The letter is dated, "Whampoa," Feb. 23, 1850; and it says:—

"California has been all the rage at Hong-Kong lately; and the day before yesterday a vessel arrived from thence (namely, from California), with news of 400 vessels there entirely deserted. One had chalked upon her side, 'Gone to the diggings for a month.' She brought news also of Sir John Franklin. I have seen no particulars yet in the papers. One of the officers of the expedition had reached the Sandwich Islands, and reported it (namely, the expedition) being in safety."

In corroboration of this statement we find the following further intelligence in the *Overland Register* and *Price Current* of the 26th of February, 1850, published at Victoria:—

"A gentleman from Mazatlan, and formerly connected with an independent yacht expedition from England, informs us that the British Consul at Mazatlan told him that Sir John Franklin had been discovered by an English expedition on the Atlantic passage, in Prince Regent's Inlet, where he had been frozen in nearly four years. The weather during the greater part of that period had been unusually cold, even for that high latitude; while that of the past year has been, on the contrary, warmer than usual. On this account the expedition referred to has been able, it is said, to penetrate the icy barrier, and rescue the unfortunate adventurers. The gentleman who gave us the information is of the highest respectability; and the facts he gave us were related with such a degree of caution, and so evident a desire to avoid all exaggeration, that we are induced, in the absence of other information, to regard them as probably accurate. However this may be, the report at least gives room to hope that this heroic navigator and his companions have escaped the dreadful fate which it has been so long feared that they had encountered."

These rumours cannot fail to excite interest; but they are only too like others which have been successively reported.

REFORM CONFERENCE.

The Conference of the National Reform Association held its first sitting on Tuesday, at Crosby-hall. The attendance consisted of the Council of the Association, 130 delegates or persons invited, and some thirteen Members of Parliament, Colonel Thompson, Messrs. Hume, Cobden, J. Kershaw, W. J. Fox, Laurence Heyworth, Feargus O'Connor, J. Williams, George Thompson, Lord Dudley Stuart, &c. Sir Joshua Walmsley took the chair, and explained the objects of the conference. They were not met to consider and decide what measure of reform they should seek to attain: that question was already determined. But they met to discuss by what practical measures they should carry out that determination. He described the promising character of the infancy of their Association; the meetings which they had held in all parts of the country having been of a most animated and enthusiastic character, and without a single exception unanimous in approval of the policy of the Association. Everywhere they had found the people alive to the imperfections of our electoral system, the industrial classes disposed to concede their extreme views, convinced of the value of the scheme propounded by the Association as embodying a broad, practical, and peaceful reform. Overt or active opposition they had not met with. If they yet had not the working classes in the majesty of their millions flocking to their standard, it was on account of their general employment and comfortable circumstances. So their progress would be slower, but safer. The same cause lessened the ardour of other classes.

After the appointment of a business committee resolutions were unanimously carried, expressing satisfaction at the progress already made, and approval of the course pursued; inviting every class of reformers to aid the operations of the Council; and asserting the expediency of employing as many lecturers (especially in the agricultural districts), and issuing as many tracts as their funds might allow.

On Wednesday resolutions were passed, approving of the Freehold Land Societies, and recommending the Council to establish a literary organ of the Association, and prepare a bill for Parliament, embodying their plan.

A resolution was submitted by Mr. Le Blond and Mr. Reynolds, with a view to extend the object of the Association to universal suffrage, basing the right "upon a claim to be registered instead of a claim to be rated." The business committee refused to entertain this resolution; and the Conference confirmed their decision.

On Thursday the attendance was but scanty. The business committee proposed a resolution, recommending to the next annual conference a more satisfactory plan for electing future councils, which was amended by an expression of opinion that the 10/- qualification should be discontinued, and a recommendation to the council to direct their attention to the best mode of election, and to report to a future conference. A resolution was then passed, affirming the desirability of forming a permanent machinery to watch and superintend the registration, and to nominate thorough reformers; a report of the conference was ordered to be prepared, some suggestions were made with regard to funds; and a vote of thanks to the President and Council terminated the day's proceedings.

This concluded the business of the Conference.

Beyond this the proceedings consisted of expressions of sympathy from delegates sent by associations in Leicester, Derby, Dublin, Merthyr, Stroud, Peterborough, Southampton, Deptford, Norwich, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Aberdeen, &c.; and in listening to a number of desultory speeches, interesting and able, but rather adapted to an ordinary public meeting than to a conference of delegates. The principal speakers were Colonel Thompson, M.P., Mr. Hume, M.P., Mr. W. J. Fox, M.P., Alderman Kershaw, M.P., Mr. Heyworth, M.P., Mr. George Dawson, Mr. Houghton of Upton, near Aylesbury—the largest tenant-farmer in the country; Mr. G. Thompson, M.P., Mr. Cobden, M.P., and Mr. Bright, M.P.

Mr. Cobden pointed to America, Switzerland, and Norway, as the countries in which the people had the greatest influence, and as the models in modern times of a wise and economical administration of financial affairs. The experience of those countries proves that with a full and fair representation there would be an economical government. He defended the mixing the two subjects of parliamentary and financial reform, "because the financial business of the country is entirely in the House of Commons." The main thing for them to do was to attend to the registration. Their great obstruction was the county representatives. He would tell the middle classes that even they had but little power in the House. They must infuse the popular element into the registry of voters through the small freehold associations. The two things, registration and freehold associations, are what they had to attend to. He wished to see all classes interested in the possession of land, and every other species of property. He was aware that the freehold associations could not avail for Scotland and Ireland; but the £8 franchise is about

to be given to Ireland, and that would be a capital argument for the same measure being given to Scotland. He concluded by congratulating the meeting on the peaceful manner in which reforms were carried in England, without Minister's houses being burned, or Kings or dynasties being set aside. It is because in England members of all classes of the community are found co-operating together.

Mr. Bright complimented the meeting on the compromising character of the agitation. "Our course is to put this question in the most palatable shape, without offence to the frightened and timid; and if we do not put forward impossible theories to overturn society, whereon to build our own schemes—which may be effected hereafter as more in keeping with the times, but not to be effected in our lifetime—I venture to say these classes will be won over to our advocacy."

At the termination of the Conference on Thursday evening, a soirée was held at the London Tavern, to which each member of the Conference had a ticket and the privilege of introducing a lady.

THE MOVEMENTS IN THE CHURCH.

The Court of Queen's Bench was crowded on Thursday to hear the decision in the case of the Bishop of Exeter *versus* Gorham. Lord Campbell delivered judgment. The motion, he said, was for a rule to show cause why the Dean of the Arches and the Archbishop of Canterbury, should not be prevented from presenting the Reverend Mr. Gorham to the vicarage of Bamford Speke. The ground of objection was that Mr. Gorham had no right to bring the appeal from the decision of the Judge of the Arches Court to the Privy Council; the appeal, it was contended, ought to have been made to the Upper House of Convocation. After a very attentive consideration, the court was of opinion that the objection was unfounded, and that Mr. Gorham had a right to pursue the course which he had taken. He referred to a number of cases to shew that the appeals from the decisions of the Court of Arches had always been to the King in Council, while no case could be found of an Appeal to the Upper House of Convocation. The judgment of the court therefore was that the rule ought not to go.

A meeting of the clergy of the East of London, not under archdiocesan jurisdiction, was held on Thursday week, at the rectory, Stepney, the Reverend R. Lee, Rector of that parish, in the chair, to consider the propriety of addressing the Bishop of London on the late decision of the committee of Privy Council on the Gorham case. An address of thanks to the Bishop of London, expressing a desire that the Church should be permitted to meet in Convocation, was moved by the Reverend T. T. Bazeley, rector of Poplar. The following amendment was moved by the Reverend W. W. Champneys, rector of Whitechapel:

"That, considering the present agitated state of the church and of the world, this meeting is of opinion that it would be most conducive to charity and peace to abstain from any expression of sentiment by an address to the bishop of the diocese or to the archbishop of the province."

A division was taken on this amendment, the numbers were 25 on each side. The amendment being declared lost, the original resolution was then put from the chair, and negatived by a majority of 1, the numbers being 25 for and 26 against the proposed address.

At a meeting of the London Church Union, held on Tuesday, the subject of the proposed public meeting, to be held in London, with a view to a formal expression of the feeling awakened by the recent judgment in the Gorham case, was taken into consideration. The committee's report having been read and adopted, it was agreed that a committee should be appointed, with instructions to enter into communication on the subject with the various provincial unions, and with individual members of the clergy and laity in the different dioceses.—*The Guardian.*

An address to the Bishop of Chester, signed by Lord de Tabley, Mr. Mainwaring, and several others, both of the laity and clergy of the diocese, is now in course of signature, praying his Lordship "to take counsel with his right reverend brethren concerning the adoption of means which may enable the Church to declare in such terms as shall appear most effectual its doctrine touching the sacrament of baptism."—*Chester Courant.*

It is stated that a case very closely resembling that of the Reverend Mr. Gorham and the Bishop of Exeter is likely to occur in the diocese of Gloucester and Bristol. The magistrates having appointed the Reverend Mr. Simpson who is understood to be the editor of a publication called *The Protestant*, to the chaplaincy of the Bridewell, in that city, a number of the high church clergy have memorialised the bishop, alleging that the reverend gentleman holds the heretical opinion that baptismal regeneration is not a doctrine of the Church of England, and praying his lordship, on that account, to refuse him the necessary license. It remains to be seen what course the bishop will take in the matter, which has given

rise to a good deal of interest in the neighbourhood.—*Daily News.*

An anonymous correspondent of the *Guardian*, in a long communication upon another subject, mentions incidentally that upon reading the letters that passed between Miss Sellon and Lord Campbell, he lost not a post in entreating Miss Sellon to allow him to double Lord Campbell's subscription towards her "Orphan Home." Upon this the editor of the *Guardian* remarks in a note—"If we are not misinformed, our correspondent might have doubled Lord Campbell's subscription without being the poorer for his liberality. We believe that his Lordship has never actually contributed a sixpence to the Orphan's Home." [This seems scarcely credible, considering the terms in which Lord Campbell spoke of his aid.]

We have heard that Mr. Gorham's son, who is at Cambridge, has espoused a party the very reverse of his father's, and walks about with a large cross on his breast, and ostentatiously displaying other Catholic emblems. As the Prince of Wales used to surprise George the Third by kicking at his door, and shouting "Wilkes and the North Briton for ever!" so young Gorham regales his parent upon all occasions with ardent praises of Henry of Exeter.—*Hull Advertiser.*

GUIZOT ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

M. Guizot has come out in the character of a Protestant missionary. At the annual meeting of the French Bible Society, which was held on Wednesday week, in the Church of the Redemption, rue Chauchat, M. Guizot, vice-president of the society, delivered a long speech on the aspects of the age. The most pressing wants of society at the present day, he said, are faith, hope, and charity.

"Those are the wishes, the appeals, which arise from all parts. Everywhere the satisfaction of these wants is sought for. To obtain a little faith, charity, and hope, the most varied sources are had recourse to, but with little success. The aspirations towards faith are most frequently only the passionate anxieties of doubt, and doubt is again fallen into. Practical charity is general, active, and efficacious. Never was more assistance given, or more individual misfortunes relieved; and yet the relations which should be established between those who believe and those who are relieved only slightly exist. Practical charity ill attains its moral end; neither one nor the other is mutually confident and tranquil. Never did more hopes, or hopes more ardent, break out, but they are scarcely anything else than the flights of the imagination in delirium or the transports of material appetites. Our society seeks everywhere a solid faith, an efficacious charity, a hope which calms and fortifies. But it does not find them; and that because it seeks them where they are not to be found. Men demand from themselves their belief and their virtues; they have the pretension to derive them from themselves, and themselves alone. But that cannot be. Men cannot be, in the great questions of their destiny, the inventors, the authors of faith, charity, and of their hopes. These wants are not satisfied at purely human sources. We must derive them from superhuman sources."

He then went "on to show that is only from Christianity that men can derive these consolations. Eternal hopes can alone purify and ennoble the terrestrial hopes. Confined to the earth, our hopes transfer themselves into avidity and selfishness." The adversaries of Christianity, while they attack it with fury, try to pass themselves off as its heirs and successors, and pretend that they walk in the path it has opened. This is falsehood and profanation. Nothing is more anti-Christian than the spirit of revolt and the spirit of licence. When Christianity first appeared there was a fine opportunity of propagating insurrection, and yet there was not the smallest trace of anything of the kind in the annals of that period. This was owing to the peaceful character of Christianity.

"This immense revolution was accomplished by moral action alone—by the moral and interior reformation of men; that is, because Christianity is essentially submissive—submissive to God, submissive to established order. It has the spirit of liberty, and even of conscientious resistance, but no spirit of rebellion. It is also essentially severe; licence is as hateful to it as revolt. It is madness to attempt to extend liberty and democracy by means of the relaxation of religious belief and of morals. Sincere belief and severe morals are indispensable to democracy and democratic liberty. The relaxation of opinions and of morals in a democratic society leads inevitably, first, to anarchy, then to despotism. See how the United States were founded. Do you think it was by the relaxation of morals? No; the founders of the American Republic were rigid for themselves and for others, and it was the spirit of rigidity which formed their strength and preserved them from the disorders and errors inherent in Democracy. Be assured that with the spirit of revolt nothing will ever be founded; as Christianity has the secret of faith, charity, and hope, it is, also, which has the true secret of order and social regeneration in democratic societies more than in any other. Let the spirit of revolt and licence not flatter itself, then, in being able to usurp the Christian work—there is absolute incompatibility between them. At the same time that Christianity can alone satisfy the want of faith, charity, and hope in our democratic society, it alone can give it the spirit of order, resignation, and severe morality, without which it cannot subsist—at least with a

régime of liberty. Have, then, full confidence in your undertaking—it is essentially good, it responds to the greatest and most pressing interests and instincts of our time. Pursue it with ardour. Make Christians—it is Christians that our society requires."

FRANCE AND HER GOVERNMENT.

The French Parliament have suffered a signal defeat in the Assembly, on a clause of the Transportation Bill. The penal code has provided that persons condemned to transportation shall be confined in the French territory until the law shall have fixed a place to which to remove them. Hence it follows that so soon as the new bill should be passed, the Government would have the power of transporting all those now under sentence, Barbès, Blanqui, and their companions of May, and those condemned at Versailles for the affair of last June. In the original bill, prepared by Odilon Barrot, a clause had excepted all those prisoners. The Government threw out this clause, and attempted to carry the bill without it, pressing it on with some haste for the sake of getting Barbès and his friends out of the country. An amendment, that the law should be applicable only to crimes committed posterior to its publication, brought up Odilon Barrot, who made one of his best speeches in favour of the amendment, and in vindication of his own legal character. He could afford to invade Rome, but not to be thought so bad a lawyer as to frame retrospective law. The Minister of the Interior thought the question of retribution might be settled by the law courts; but the Assembly would not this time lend themselves to his appetite for vengeance. The amendment was carried by 365 to 301 votes. M. Barroche talks about resigning.

Some "rioting" has been put down at Saumur. A crowd was singing the *Chant du Départ*. As they neglected to separate so soon as ordered, the troops charged them. Several persons were seriously wounded.

The President of the Republic has visited Angers, and distributed rewards among those most active in saving the lives of the soldiers in the late terrible accident.

M. Proudhon's journal, the *Voice du Peuple*, has been for the seventh time seized—this time for remarks upon the accident at Angers. M. Proudhon speaking of the soldiers who were there drowned as Socialist victims.

The two journals published at Angers—the *Précursor* and the *Démocratie*—have also been seized for prosecution, because they demanded an enquiry into the catastrophe, calling upon the authorities to acquit themselves of the charge that the soldiers had been obliged to cross the suspension-bridge in order to avoid a certain part of the town.

The *National* has also been seized for commenting upon articles in the *Napoléon*, the *Constitutionnel*, and the *Moniteur du Soir*, in which articles the Government was called upon to change the constitution, and prolong its own power. The sale of the *Événement* (edited by the son of M. Victor Hugo) and the *Estafette* is prohibited. Neither of these papers is of the extreme party, though both are opposed to the Government.

The *Assemblée Nationale* says a meeting of Republicans is to take place in Paris at the end of the present month, to compare accounts of the state of the provinces, in order to arrange a movement there to precede an outbreak in Paris.

THE RETURN OF THE POPE.

The rejoicings that hailed the return of the once popular Pio Nono are painted by the "own correspondent" of the *Times* in glowing colours. First we have the rejoicings at Velletri, and then those at Rome; and the accounts are worth attention. At Velletri, where on the happy morning of the 11th, every one in the town "rushed about in joyful preparation." As the day drew on the houses were "lost under a mass of scarlet and green;" troops were drawn out; the municipality were in loyal advance. At three o'clock all were waiting. Amidst the roar of the opening cannon from the height, General Baraguay d' Hilliers dashes through the gates; the chasseurs drawing, and the line presenting arms. Couriers and carriages with four and six horses follow: then a squadron of Neapolitan Cavalry, and immediately afterwards the Pope:—

"It was a touching sight. The women cried, the men shouted. As he passed on the troops presented arms, and every one knelt. He drew up in front of the Municipality, who were so affected or so frightened that their speech ended in nothing. The carriage door was opened, and every one rushed forward to kiss the foot which was put out. One little Abbé caught hold of the sacred foot, he hugged it, he sighed, he wept over it."

The Pope passed in procession to the cathedral, which was densely crowded "principally by troops." On the raising of the Host his Holiness, "with all his subjects," bowed their heads to the pavement. The ceremonies of the day closed with the benediction from the Palace, a small chapel having been

erected for the purpose in the balcony. The houses were illuminated, and the cannon again roared.

The excited correspondent proceeds to describe the reception, on the following morning, at which he himself assisted. There he beheld the foot of his Holiness "kissed gracefully and with emotion," and heard those charming words from the pontifical lips—"our sorrows are over."

At Genzano, that wondrous day, "General Baragay d'Ulliers had to send to Albano for two cutlets and bread, the supplies of Genzano being exhausted." So grandly are related the rejoicings at Villetre.

The accounts of the doings at the Capitol are, strange to say, comparatively meagre. In the procession there were troops and couriers, outriders and officials, and finally the Pope, who descended from his carriage amidst cheers and waving of handkerchiefs. Very few, however, knelt, the pageant being the interest and not the circumstance in which it originated. At night there was a not very brilliant illumination.

Our own letters state that the signs of rejoicing were confined to the Government employés—the police, the priests, some few strangers, and a small crowd of the lowest of the population hired for the occasion. The correspondent of the *National* says: "The attitude of the people was gloomy and silent." "The illuminations were a failure. Some of those forced to light up exhibited the colours of the Republic." "Hissing was heard even in St. Peter's."

THE GREAT TUNNEL OF THE ALPS.

To complete a direct line of railroad communication between Boulogne or London and the Adriatic, only one obstacle remains to be surmounted—the chain of Mont Cenis and Mont Genève, running nearly north-east and south-west, with an elevation of 11,000 feet. If not surmounted, this obstacle is soon to be traversed; and a correspondent of the *Times* describes the method:—

"From London, as far as Chambery, by the Lyons Railroad, all is smooth enough. But rail can and will, and indeed is now about to, push further, ascending to Mont Meilland, and St. Maurienne, and, by an ultimate effort, it will yet reach higher, as far as Modane, at the foot of the northern crest of the Graian and Cottian Alps. Once there all further progress is arrested, and no train can hope to reach the Italian side to Susa and Turin, and thence to the eastern coasts of the peninsula, unless a subterranean wayfare be pierced through the snow-capped barrier.

"What a magnificent problem is here presented to the inventive genius of the age! What splendid results to be attained by its successful solution! Such a problem has been actually under the consideration of the Sardinian Government since August, 1845. Its solution is no longer a matter of doubt. The possibility of boring through the heart of Mont Genève, and of linking Chambery with Susa, north and south of that range, is a demonstrated truth. The great tunnel of the Alps is about to become a reality, under the auspices of Victor Emmanuel and the Piedmontese Parliament.

"The author of this gigantic scheme is the Chevalier Henry Mauz, Honorary Inspector of the *Génie Civil*, the same who devised and executed the great works on the Liege Railroad. After five years of incessant study of this question, and many practical experiments and calculations, including the invention of new machinery for boring the mountain, this officer made his final report to the Government on the 8th of February, 1849.

"A commission was thereupon named on the 13th of July, 1849, consisting of several distinguished civil engineers, artillery officers, senators, members of the Government, and a professor of geology, to examine and give their opinion on the nature and feasibility of Chevalier Mauz's project. That commission on the 1st of November last decided unanimously and entirely in favour of the project; and their report, together with that of Chevalier Mauz, has recently been printed for private distribution by order of the Sardinian Government.

"An application for a part of the funds required to begin the great tunnel will be made to the Chambers forthwith, and the work, which it is expected will occupy five years, will cost 14,000,000£.; while the entire railroad of the Alps, connecting the tunnel with the Chambery Railway on the one side and with that of Susa on the other side (in length 203 English miles), will cost 21,000,000£. more, forming a total expense of 35,000,000£.

"The great tunnel itself will measure nearly seven English miles in length; its greatest height will be 19 feet, and its width 25, admitting, of course, of a double line of rail. Its northern entrance is to be at Modane, and the southern entrance at Bardonneche, on the river Mardovine. This latter entrance, being the highest point of the intended line of rail, will be 4092 feet above the level of the sea, and yet 2400 feet below the highest or culminating point of the great road or pass over the Mont Cenis. It is intended to divide the connecting lines of rail leading to either entrance of the tunnel into eight inclined planes of about 2*1*/₂ English miles each, worked like those at Liege, by endless cables and stationary engines, but in the present case moved by water power derived from the torrents.

"The most remarkable part of the project, however, is the newly-devised machinery and motive power by which the Chevalier Mauz proposes to bore the great tunnel. It is an ingenious as it is new, presenting some extraordinary facts in mechanics which could hardly have been anticipated, but the truth of which has been tested and verified by practical essays made with working models of the natural size before the Government commission already mentioned."

THE SOLUTION OF THE LAST "SEA-SERPENT."

The great sea-serpent is "very like a whale." The *New York Journal* gives the following account of the "monster's" capture:—"The renowned expedition of Captain Barnwell up Broad River, in search of the monster snake, were much chagrined, on approaching his worship, by the discovery that they were in the proximity of four whales, one large and three smaller, which generally preserved their respective positions—one immediately following the other, and in their movements having all the appearances of a single animal. The largest whale, which was calculated to be about sixty to sixty-five feet, and the head of which was several times raised about six feet out of the water, had below the mouth what resembled a white beard—the 'floating mane' so often described as belonging to the sea-serpent."

DIVORCE.

The application of Mr. Edwin Forrest for a divorce from his wife, Catherine Sinclair, after going through various stages in the senate at Harrisburg, was finally rejected by 17 against 16. The *New York Herald* publishes a portion of the correspondence on which Mr. Forrest founded his application, along with his own affidavit, in which he refers to a letter he found in his wife's drawer, in the handwriting of G. W. Jamieson, addressed to Mrs. Forrest under the name of "Consuelo," and which she admits to have received from the writer of it when she and her husband were on board the steam-boat about to leave Cincinnati for Pittsburgh. Although unfairly published, these letters are now public property among the gossip of the day. The style is curious:—

"And now, sweetest Consuelo, our brief dream is over—and such a dream! Have we not known real bliss? Have we not realized what poets loved to set up as an ideal state, giving full license to their imagination, scarce believing in its reality? Have we not experienced the truth that ecstasy is not a fiction? I have; and, as I will not permit myself to doubt you, am certain you have. And oh! what an additional delight to think—no, to know that I have made some hours happy to you. Yes, and that remembrance of me may lighten the heavy time of many an hour to come. Yes, our little dream of great account is over; reality stares us in the face. Let us pursue its features. Look with me, and read as I do, and you will find our dream is not all a dream. * * * A doubt of thee can no more find harbour in my brain than the open rose could cease to be the humbird's harbour; and as my heart and soul are in your possession, examine them, and you will find no text from which to discourse a doubt of me. * * * I wish I could tell you my happiness; I cannot. No words have yet been invented that could convey any idea of the depth of that passion, composed of pride, admiration, awe, gratitude, veneration and love, without being earthly, that I feel for you."

Adieu, adieu! and when thou art gone,
My joy shall be made up alone
Or calling back, with fancy's charm,
Those halcyon hours when in my arm
Clasped Consuelo.

Adieu, adieu! Be thine each joy
That earth can yield, wihout alloy,
Shall be the earnest, constant prayer
Of him who on his heart shall wear
But Consuelo.

Adieu, adieu! When next we meet,
Will not all sadness then retreat,
And yield the conquered time to kiss?
Say, Consuelo.

Christiana Underwood, who had been housekeeper to Mr. Forrest for many years, makes an affidavit in which she draws another well-known name into her story:—

"One day, in 1844, before Mr. and Mrs. Forrest went to England, I went to the house, and Mr. N. P. Willis came to see her; she went down to see him, and spent considerable time with him; when she returned, her cheeks were flushed, and her hair disordered, and I thought he had been kissing her: some time during the year 1847, Mr. N. P. Willis was in the habit of coming continually to see Mrs. Forrest, and used to stay for some hours at a time with her, with all the blinds of the dining room closed. The frequency and privacy of his visits attracted the attention of the servants, and on one occasion, when he was up in the library in the evening, Mrs. Forrest came to me and expressed great anxiety to get him out of the house without the servants seeing him."

A letter from N. P. Willis also appears in the *Herald*: it implies a disclaimer to this charge, but it does not contain any explicit or direct contradiction to the statement.

It is said that another attempt will be made by Mr. Forrest to obtain a divorce.

The second reading of Mr. Cobbe's Divorce Bill took place in the House of Lords on Tuesday evening. The petitioner in this case was Mr. Thomas Cobbe, who sought by the bill to dissolve the marriage in which he had entered with his cousin, Azelia Anne Cobbe, in 1838. Mr. Cobbe was member of an Irish family, the son of a large landed proprietor, and at the period of the marriage he was studying for the bar. He was a member of Lincoln's-inn, and was "called" in the year 1841. From the moment of their marriage up to the discovery of the circumstances which gave rise to the present proceedings,

Mr. and Mrs. Cobbe lived upon the most affectionate terms. After the marriage the parties resided in Queen Anne-street, Cavendish-square. It happened that Mr. Talmadge, the gentleman with whom Mrs. Cobbe had eventually gone off, had been an old college friend of Mr. Cobbe, and after his marriage he became an intimate and a frequent visitor at his house. Mr. Cobbe had been in the habit of quitting his home between nine and ten o'clock each morning, and proceeding to his chambers in Lincoln's-inn; and it would appear that for a length of time it had been the custom of Mr. Talmadge to pay his secret visits to Mrs. Cobbe during the absence of her husband at chambers, which usually was for the greater part of the day. The intimacy between Mr. Talmadge and Mrs. Cobbe continued from that time up till the 13th of March, 1843, when she left her husband's house. Mr. Cobbe had since brought an action for compensation, and had recovered £500 damages, which had, with the costs, been paid by Mr. Talmadge, with whom Mrs. Cobbe has ever since lived, and was now living in France. Several witnesses were examined, and proved that on various occasions Mr. Talmadge spent the whole night in the lady's bedroom. The bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed.

DISASTERS IN THE WEST INDIES.

The West Indian Mails, by the Avon, bring an account of a tornado of terrific violence which passed over the town and harbour of Nassau (Bahamas) about one a.m. on the 30th of March, bearing down everything in its course. A great deal of damage was done, about fifty houses were destroyed, many of them being actually smashed to atoms; trees of immense size were torn up by the roots. Several small vessels in the harbour were sunk and others damaged. The squall in its course passed over a ship-yard, and a large schooner on the stocks was blown over and damaged. Eight persons were killed and several badly wounded. One man had his head blown off. The tornado lasted not more than one minute. Nassau presented an aspect of the greatest desolation from the effects of this sudden squall, unequalled for violence and destruction of property in so short a space of time.

In Barbadoes, from the end of February to the sailing of the packet on the 27th of March, considerable uneasiness had been created by a quick succession of fires on the sugar estates, some caused by the long drought, others said to be occasioned by incendiaries. A great many acres of the new crop had been consumed, and the fires were still of frequent occurrence when the packet came away.

A destructive fire took place at Port-of-Spain, in Trinidad, on the night of March 7, the most extensive since the memorable conflagration of 1808. The damage is estimated at 12,000£.

From St. Thomas we are informed of a desperate act of piracy. The American schooner J. B. Lindsey left Port-of-Spain on or about the 1st of February. While yet in sight of that place, at night, the mate and a passenger were murdered and thrown overboard by the crew. The master was severely wounded, but contrived to secure the cabin-door against the murderers, and for some days kept them at bay. After ransacking the vessel for money, the mutineers took to the schooner's boat, and with an axe attempted to scuttle the vessel; but their design was defeated by the cook, who cut the boat's painter and set them adrift. The master then managed to crawl on deck, and by threatening to fire on the boat prevented the mutineers from returning on board. The boat then made for the Spanish Main, and the master contrived to reach St. Thomas in the schooner, where he was taken care of by the American Consul.

From Montserrat come accounts of the prevalence of smallpox, and of terrible distress among the people. Governor Higginson, in his message to the Legislature of Antigua, stated that all the local means were insufficient to do more than partially alleviate the mass of suffering. Cultivation had been almost entirely suspended. Things were, however, somewhat mending. The smallpox had not yet disappeared from St. Lucia.

In St. Christopher a cutaneous disease resembling smallpox was spreading throughout the island. The long-continued drought at St. Lucia, St. Vincent's, and St. Christopher's was much deplored.

DESTRUCTION OF THE CATHEDRAL OF SARRAGOSSA.

The cathedral of Saragossa has been destroyed by lightning. On the 7th instant the whole population, gaily attired, had assembled in the cathedral to follow the procession of the Holy Sacrament. Scarcely had the procession issued from the massive portals of the cathedral ere the heavens became clothed with darkness, a huge black cloud hung like a pall over the town, and suddenly the rain descended in such torrents that the crowd was forced to take shelter within the cathedral. The people told their beads, and were overwhelmed with terror at the Cimmerian darkness which enveloped the sacred edifice. Presently there was heard a terrific crash, accompanied by a loud noise as of the roaring of artillery. It was found that the lightning had struck the spires of the cathedral, and, entering through one of numerous interstices of the light and graceful architecture, struck dead the bell-ringer, and penetrated to the timber roofing, which immediately blazed forth with a fury admitting of no control, although the heavens continued to pour down their waters upon the burning rafters. The crowd, preferring even water to fire, rushed forth into the streets, through which the water was pouring in torrents, and left the unquenched flames to do their fiery work. The roof fell in towards the afternoon, and then the priests incited the people to attempt the preservation of the interior, and the course of the flames was at length arrested. Thus has perished the noblest specimen of ecclesiastical architecture in all Aragon, perhaps in all Spain.

INCENDIARY FIRES.

On the evening of Saturday last, about ten o'clock, a fire was discovered at an out-parish belonging to Mr. Allen, farmer, of Chalkshire, in the parish of Ellesborough. Assistance was rendered, and the damage was restricted to the destruction of a rick of peas and a rick of beans. This is the fourth fire that has occurred upon Mr. Allen's premises in a comparatively short time, and all, there is no doubt, the work of some vile incendiary. A man of the name of Thomas Eames, who has been in his employ as a carter for the last thirty years, has been taken up on suspicion.—*Bucks Herald*.

A fire broke out at Landbeach on Saturday evening last, on the premises of Mr. John Adams, farmer. It began on a quantity of straw, which was soon all consumed. It then burnt a shed containing ten calves, which they rescued with great difficulty, as the flames surrounded the shed at the time. We are sorry to add the offender is not at present found out.—*Cambridgeshire Chronicle*.

The village of Milton, near Abingdon, was alarmed on Wednesday evening by the outbreak of a fire on the premises of Mr. Coombs, of Milton. About half-past nine o'clock a wheat rick was discovered to be in flames, which quickly communicated with another rick of a similar kind, and both were consumed.—*Oxford Journal*.

At Dry Drayton, in Cambridgeshire, fire broke out on the farm premises on Tuesday week, and consumed a considerable quantity of wheat, barley, beans, hay, and other farm produce. The stack was said to be lighted in such a direction as to bear evidence of intention to set fire to the house. This is the fifth attempt to fire the premises within six months. At Lanbeach, in the same county, a fire broke out on the premises of Mr. C. Money, but was extinguished before it had done much damage—the third attempt in that neighbourhood within a few weeks. "At Bentley Mill, Southweald," says the *Norfolk Chronicle*, "the fiendish work of an incendiary was again manifest in the destruction of the whole of the farm buildings, part of two stacks of hay, and about twenty quarters of wheat." At Street Farm, in Somersetshire, an incendiary fire, on Monday week, destroyed between sixty and seventy tons of hay.

MURDERS AND MURDEROUS ASSAULTS.

The body of T. George, a young man about eighteen years of age, was found in a barn, near Frome, last week, with his throat cut. The first supposition was that he had committed suicide, but on more careful examination it became evident that he had been murdered. From the manner in which the wound in the throat was inflicted, the surgeons who examined the body were decidedly of opinion that it must have been inflicted by some one else. It further appeared that his skull had been fractured in front by a blow, and that his pockets had been rifled; the mark of bloody fingers was also found on his clothes, although his hands were perfectly clean. Suspicion fell upon Henry Hiller, a labourer on the same farm, who had been heard to say that he wished Tom George were killed out of the way, as he could not bear the sight of him. This man was taken before the magistrates at Frome, and the evidence against him was such as to warrant his being committed to prison on the charge of murder.

A man named Saint, who had been drinking all last week, went home on Friday evening and ordered his wife to prepare a steak and onions for supper. She told him she had no money, and upbraided him for his loose conduct; upon which he became furious, threatened to kill her, and then murder himself. With great difficulty she pacified him; and he went to bed, and she sat down to work. While she was so employed her husband came stealthily behind and struck her on the head with the poker. She became insensible; and when she recovered he was standing over her with an open razor in his hand. She screamed for assistance; he struck her again, and swore he would "do for her," but fortunately some of her neighbours came to her assistance. The cowardly fellow was taken before Mr. Hardwick, at Marlborough-street Police Office on Saturday, and ordered to pay a fine of £5 or to be imprisoned for one month in the House of Correction.

One Wallace, a publican in Liverpool, attempted to murder his wife last week. For some weeks previous his conduct had been so violent, that she put his razors out of the way, lest he should use them against her life. On Tuesday night, the inmates of the house were alarmed by screams from Wallace's bed-room. The door was bolted, but they burst it open: they found Mrs. Wallace lying on the floor bleeding; her husband, stark naked, was kicking her furiously. When told that he had killed her, he said "I meant to do it. I kicked her on the jugular, and I am sorry I had not my boots on, for then I should have killed her." The man has been committed for trial on a charge of aggravated assault.

Charles Holden, who gave himself up to the police lately, on his own confession of having murdered a woman twenty years ago, now denies that there were any grounds for his statement. He had been drinking and was not quite right in the head when he made the confession. Of course he has been discharged.

Bennison, an Irishman residing in Leith-walk, a Wesleyan Methodist remarkable for his piety and "gifts of extempore prayer," has been arrested on a charge of having poisoned his wife. About seven weeks ago Bennison purchased a quantity of arsenic from a druggist in the Kirkgate, at Leith, on the pretence of killing rats, although none have been seen about his house for years. Soon after his wife's death, he called on the druggist, and requested him and his wife not to mention that he had purchased the arsenic, for there might be some found in his wife's stomach, but, "so help him, God," he did not put it there. On the Monday previous to his wife's death, he enrolled her name in a burial-club; by which he was entitled to receive £1. on her death.

Another case of a murderous assault upon a young

woman by Michael Murphy, a man with whom she lived, took place on Tuesday evening. Ann Leary, the woman, had been compelled to leave Murphy because he had pledged every thing she had, and reduced her to destitution. On Tuesday night she met him in Tooley-street, and because she could give him no money to drink, he felled her to the ground with a stick, and began to kick her on the head. Fortunately some persons came to her assistance, or she would have been murdered. Murphy was taken into custody, and brought before the magistrate at Southwark on Wednesday. He excused himself by saying that he was drunk at the time; and was remanded for a week.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The morning papers of Monday contained a statement that the members of the Cabinet, the Lord Chancellor, and the Archbishop of Canterbury had received notice that their attendance at the palace would probably be required during the night, to witness the birth of a royal child. The rumour appears to have been premature, as the Queen is reported to have taken a drive in an open carriage each afternoon this week.

Prince Albert has subscribed £50 towards the erection of a chapel for the use of "the inmates of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum."

Thursday being the birthday of the Princess Alice, the Duchess of Kent paid a visit of congratulation to the Queen, at an early hour, at Buckingham Palace. At five o'clock in the afternoon Her Majesty received a small juvenile party, comprising the younger members of the families of the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, Lord and Lady Blantyre, Monsieur and Madame Van de Weyer, and Colonel the Hon. C. B. and Mrs. Phipps. The Queen, accompanied by the royal children, received her youthful visitors in the saloon, in which the juveniles danced, and afterwards proceeded to the library, where refreshments were served. The juvenile party left the palace soon after seven o'clock.

The birthday of the Duchess of Gloucester also fell on Thursday, on which occasion she received congratulatory visits from the Duchess of Kent and the junior members of the Royal Family. The royal Duchess went to Kew, and paid a visit to the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. The nobility and gentry called during the day at Gloucester House, and left their names for her Royal Highness. In the evening the Duke of Cambridge dined with the Duchess of Gloucester.

The Queen of the Belgians, accompanied by the Duchess of Orleans, with the Comte de Paris and the Duke de Chartres, and attended by a numerous suite, arrived at Dover on Thursday, from Ostend. On disembarking they proceeded to the railway terminus, where a special train was in readiness to convey them, via the South-Eastern Railway, to Reigate, and thence, by the Reigate and Guildford Railway, to the Esher station of the South Western Railway, where the Count and Countess de Neuilly, the Duke and Duchess de Nemours, and the Duke d'Aumale were in attendance to receive their relatives, whom they accompanied to Claremont.

The Prince of Leiningen arrived at the residence of the Duchess of Kent, Clarence-house, St. James's, on Thursday evening, from the Continent.

On Thursday last Louis Philippe and the ex-Queen, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess de Nemours and one of their children, left Kemp Town on a visit to the Duke and Duchess of Richmond, at Goodwood. Several persons had assembled at the station for the purpose of seeing the royal exiles, their intended visit to Goodwood-park having been made known in the neighbourhood the day before. A private carriage of the Duke of Richmond was in waiting to convey the royal party to Goodwood. On their way to the carriage the spectators cried "Vive le Roi." The King took off his hat, and, bowing to the assemblage, expressed himself obliged for the kind reception of himself and family. The cry of "Vive le Roi" was renewed as the carriage drove off.—*Brighton Gazette*.

The Lord Chancellor continues to improve in health. He is now strong enough to hear counsel at his house, in Park-lane, on such matters as are represented to be of pressing interest; but no day has yet been named for the commencement of the public sittings.

Viscount Goderich has just left London on a continental tour, and it is said that he intends to be absent from England six months.

We regret to learn that the Marquis of Clanricarde is suffering from an attack of illness.

Lord Holland has arrived at Holland House from Paris. His lordship is suffering from indisposition.

The Marquis of Northampton has written home from the cataracts of Syene, the pass between Egypt and Nubia, requesting that he may be nominated a member of the Syro-Egyptian Society of London. He was accordingly elected a member at the last meeting of the society.

The Earl of Ellesmere sailed from Portsmouth in his schooner, the Ermina, on Wednesday, with a party of five gentlemen, who accompany him on a voyage to the Mediterranean, whither he has gone for the benefit of his health.

Lord Brougham, who has become quite a Nimrod in his old age, is about to convert some of his estate near Brougham-hall into a deer park, the high walls of which are making rapid progress towards completion. It will be stocked by deer from Lowther.

An address from the leader of the Oxford circuit bar, on behalf of that body, congratulating Lord Campbell on his elevation to the office of Lord Chief Justice of England, was presented to his lordship before the close of the last Gloucester assizes. In reply he expressed his gratification at finding he was still remembered favourably

by his old associates, and said his first choice of a circuit should be the Oxford.

The Reverend the Earl of Guilford has, it is stated, given the tenants of the livings of St. Mary's, Southampton, and of Alresford, in Hampshire, notice to terminate their leases at Michaelmas next; and it is expected that his curates in those livings will shortly receive notices to terminate their engagements at the same time. Hence it is inferred that the reverend earl contemplates resigning his benefices at that time.—*Daily News*.

The Duke of Devonshire gave a grand ball on Wednesday evening at Devonshire-house, which was attended by nearly all the leading members of the aristocracy at present in town.

The Duchess of Marlborough died, on Saturday, at Mivart's Hotel, where the family had arrived only a few weeks since from Blenheim Palace. She had been confined of a still-born infant some five weeks ago, and was considered to be rapidly advancing towards recovery. A severe mental shock about a fortnight since affected so powerfully the nervous system that she never rallied, and finally sank under its influence at an early hour on Saturday morning.

Lord Gough was admitted a member of the Goldsmith's Company on Wednesday, and in the evening a grand banquet was given in honour of the occasion in the Goldsmiths'-hall, at which the Duke of Wellington, Lord Stanley, the Bishop of London, Lord Hardinge, Sir James Graham, and a number of other noblemen and gentlemen were present.

The Emperor of Austria has conferred upon Captain Duckett the "gold medal" of Austria, as a mark of his approbation of the "German Part" of his Technological Military Dictionary.

F. R. Jackson, Esq., has received the appointment of President of the Money Order Department in the General Post-office, in the room of Wm. Barth, Esq., deceased.

The Madrid journals say that all the members of the royal family of Spain are to be permitted to enter Madrid before the Queen's delivery.

A Spanish journal (*the País*) mentions a report that Prince Louis Napoleon has demanded in marriage one of the Infantas, the sister of the King-Consort of Spain.

April 20 was Louis Napoleon's birthday. His age is forty-three.

The *Cologne Gazette* says that the services of Haynau, like those of Jellachich, are to be rewarded by the gift of lands in Hungary.

Baron de Menneval, formerly private secretary of the Emperor Napoleon, died at Paris on Friday evening, in the seventy-third year of his age.

The widow of Marshal Blucher, whose name is as familiar in England as in Germany, died on the 16th instant, at an advanced age, at her residence in Berlin.

It is stated that the marriage of the Prince Meiningen with Princess Charlotte of Prussia is to be celebrated by splendid fetes, to be given by their Majesties, as well as by Prince Albrecht. The ceremony will take place early next month.

The Sardinian Commissary, Major-General De La Rocca, sent to demand the hand of the Princess Elizabeth, second daughter of Prince John of Saxony, went through the official ceremony on the 18th inst.

The Emperor of Austria and the Imperial Family will go to Schönbrunn on the 28th. It is said that the Emperor has presented his uncle, the Emperor Ferdinand, with a valuable estate in Bohemia. The coronation is to take place on the 18th of August.

After the last representation of the *Huguenots*, in the Italian Opera at St. Petersburg, Madame Grisi was recalled before the curtain, and presented, in the name of the public, with a diadem of the value of 10,000 roubles. The Emperor also sent presents to all the artists who took part in the performance.

The French Government has received accounts from Switzerland to the effect that M. Mazzini refuses to quit that country, notwithstanding the reiterated orders of the Government. The French Government threatens that if the Swiss Government cannot enforce its orders, other powers will do so in its stead.

A proposition, signed by nearly two hundred representatives, has been presented to the French Assembly to the effect that the 200,000 francs (£8000), destined for the fêtes of the 4th of May, shall be distributed to the soldiers wounded at the catastrophe at Angers, and to the families of those who are dead.

The *Voice du Peuple* denies the romantic story, so largely placarded over Paris, that M. Leclerc, the Legitimist candidate, having, at the insurrection of June, carried home from the barricades his son pierced with seventeen bullets, and having immediately brought back his second son to take his brother's place. The only true part of the story is this. "M. Leclerc was carrying off his wounded son, when a second ball killed him in his arms at the Porte St. Denis. He reached at length the house of George Leclerc, Rue Poissonnière, 33, where he remained with his wife until it was interred, and he took no part in the combat either alone or with his second or his third son, both of whom had been absent at the moment of their brother's death."

Diplomatic relations have been resumed between Austria and the Porte.

The Saxon Chambers have decided by an overwhelming majority to grant to the Government the ordinary as well as the extraordinary taxes until the end of August.

The *National Gazette* of Berlin announces that Russia insists upon the re-incorporation of Schleswig-Holstein with Denmark; and threatens immediate intervention if this be not complied with.

The *Vienna Gazette* of the 13th instant announces forty-eight more sentences by the Arad courts-martial. Of these twenty-two are to death, one commuted to twenty years' imprisonment, heavily ironed. The re-

maining twenty-six are for terms of imprisonment from three to fourteen years.

The Vienna *Gazette* publishes the octroyed constitution for Trieste; Trieste is declared an entirely independent community, belonging to no province, and under the direct jurisdiction of the Ministry, without the intervention of any governor or Viceroy.

The manufacturers of the Vorarlberg have addressed a memorial to the Minister of Commerce respecting the project assimilating the customs system of all Germany, in which the conception of a "united Germany" is derided as a dream and phantom, and the prohibitory system extolled.

The trial of the supposed murderers of Prince Liechnowski and Count Auerswald at Frankfort proceeds but slowly at Hanau. So far as the evidence has gone at present it in no way tends to convict the prisoners.

The cholera has reappeared with great violence at Halberstadt.

The Berlin constabulary force, which has hitherto worn round hats, are to appear in a few days in helmets resembling those of the military—head-dress that may be useful for defence, but which will serve to render them more conspicuous than is consistent with the nature of their duties. They are likewise to receive side-arms more effective than the short swords worn at present.

According to accounts from the Lower Vistula, the waters increase rather than diminish in depth and violence. Up to the latest accounts the stream had risen at Thorn, Marienburg, and Dirschau, to fifteen feet above the ordinary level, and rushes with such violence as to render it difficult to establish the bridges.

At Florence, on the 12th instant (the anniversary of the overthrow of the Republic), the ducal arms were replaced and some trees of liberty were uprooted, amid the "enthusiastic cheers" of the people. All public rejoicing was, however, prohibited out of the city, as it was feared the military would not be strong enough to maintain order. The trial of Guerazzi (one of the Tuscan triumvirate) goes on but slowly; the proceedings are not yet made public.

The Russian Government has demanded the expulsion from Constantinople of M. Czayka Czaykowski, who has resided in that capital for the last twelve years under the protection of the French embassy. A similar demand had been made and refused in the time of Louis Philippe.

Letters from Athens say that no further conference is to take place between Mr. Wyse and Baron Gros, for both Ministers have found it impossible to come to an understanding as to the manner in which the claims of the British Government upon Greece ought to be settled.

A shock of an earthquake was felt at Smyrna, at half-past three, a.m., of Wednesday, the 3rd instant, which caused the greatest alarm. The noise which preceded the shock is described as most terrific.

A serious "insurrection" has broken out in Morocco. All that portion of the empire bordering on the French possessions is in arms, and the insurgents are in occupation of the small town of Ouchda, near Tlemcen. Precautionary measures have been taken by the French authorities, and several columns of troops forwarded to the frontier.

The States of the Ionian Islands have been opened by Sir H. Ward.

Letters from Messina of the 12th state that since the 9th there have been upwards of forty shocks of earthquakes, in consequence of which the greatest alarm was prevalent, and business was at a complete stand.

The *Borsenhalle* of Hamburg has the following from the frontiers of Russia:—"It becomes more and more difficult to enter Russia, and whoever desires to exercise any branch of industry in the country is obliged to make himself a subject of the Czar. For the future, preachers of the evangelical communion will not be allowed to come from Germany."

It appears, from the last letters received from China, that, in consequence of the successful operations of her Majesty's vessels employed against the pirates off the coast of Hainan, there is reason to believe that the remainder of the piratical force has disbanded itself. The Chinese authorities, also, have issued a proclamation warning all persons who had forsaken piracy to return to their homes, and threatening those who do not obey with punishment.

The Jews residing in Gibraltar are occupied with a petition to be presented to the Queen of Spain, praying for permission to pass through Spain in the course of their commercial travels, it being as yet prohibited to them to live in the "well-beloved" country, which was the cradle of their ancestral grandeur and eminence in wealth and learning, and to which they can never direct their eyes without tears of sorrow being called forth by old recollections.—*Jewish Chronicle*.

The Hungarian Exiles in New York have held a public meeting to protest against the conduct of Austria.

In Mexico, the Tampico outbreak has been put down without military aid, by the inhabitants of the district; and as Santa Anna's former army has been almost annihilated by the Americans, there seems some prospect of tranquillity. Almost all the mines in the interior of Mexico are in full work, and trade is reviving. Santa Anna (the ex-dictator of Mexico), has just left Kingston, Jamaica, where he has been residing the last three years, for Cartagena, where he intends to reside.

A noted bandit, named Romero, who was chief of a gang of robbers which has for some time infested the districts of Celanova and Bande, on the frontiers of Portugal, has been taken up at last by the Portuguese authorities; he was travelling under an assumed name, and passed himself off as a physician.

Governor Barkly opened the Combined Courts of British Guiana on the 11th of March.

The Governor of Porto Rico has repealed the recent high tonnage duties upon foreign vessels.

At a Court of Admiralty Sessions in Spanish Town an aged woman, named Klaber, was charged with taking to

Cuba with her upwards of twenty-five years ago, and selling into slavery a poor Black woman. The charge was fully substantiated, and the prisoner was sentenced to three years' imprisonment in the Penitentiary.

The Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's have decided against the proposition for removing the iron railways round the cathedral. On the ground of convenience the chapter determine that "no advantage to the public traffic could accrue, so long as the approaches, especially that by Ludgate-hill, are in their present state." The cab-stands, also, would be "unsightly" "in closer contact with the walls of the cathedral."

As a question of taste, in the opinion of the dean and chapter, "the precinct in which the Cathedral stands cannot be contracted without impairing the dignity of the building, nor would the dean and chapter be justified, without the strongest case of public necessity, in removing the iron railings which have been admired for nearly a century and a half as the earliest and one of the finest works of the kind in Europe." Moreover "some respectable inhabitants" have strongly remonstrated against the change. "The dean and chapter, however, have under consideration a plan for opening the area before the west front to all persons on foot during the day time (except on occasions when the dean and chapter may think it necessary to keep the gates closed), so that an uninterrupted and leisurely view of the architectural elevation may be enjoyed by the public."

From the examinations that have been made of the wreck of the Royal Adelaide steamer, there remains little doubt that the fearful loss of life was occasioned by the blowing up of the vessel.

A writ was ordered in the House of Commons on Wednesday for the borough of Lyminster, in the room of the Honourable Colonel Keppel, who has accepted the Chiltern Hundreds. It is said that Captain Yelverton will be the Free Trade candidate. At the last election Colonel Keppel was returned by a majority of 16.

The Stromboli, steam-sloop, Commander Lord Amelius Beauclerk, will probably accompany Captain Austin's Arctic expedition to the edge of the ice. The Stromboli was employed on similar service when Sir James Clarke Ross's expedition left for the Arctic regions, in May, 1848.

The committee of the City of London Hospital have just selected a suitable design for the erection of an institution at Victoria-park, where a suitable space of ground has been secured to the charity by the Commissioners of Woods and Forests.

In accordance with ancient custom the judges attended divine service at the metropolitan cathedral on Sunday, accompanied by a large number of the members of the civic corporation, and several sergeants-at-law. A rumour that the Bishop of London would preach, though it turned out erroneous, caused a greater crowd than usual, and many persons were unable to obtain admission.

The schooner Proserpine, 130 tons measurement, the property of a party of noblemen, left the East India Docks, on Saturday last, on an interesting exploring trip down the Coast of Norway, round the North Cape, up the White Sea, and along the coast of Lapland; then proceeding round the north of Iceland, and returning to England in October next. Their voyage is partly scientific research and partly pleasure.

An exact *fac-simile* of Eyan-cross, that superb relic of antiquity, is about to be made for the Duke of Devonshire, who intends placing it in a conspicuous part of the park at Chatsworth.

A weaver in Manchester has invented a machine by which trousers, or even coats, may be woven complete in one piece, requiring not a touch of the needle.—*Stockport Mercury*.

Henceforward the sale of postage stamps of the value of 10d. and 1s. will be extended to all post-offices throughout the United Kingdom.

The highest stipend given to Welsh curates is £150, while a great many of them are as low as £40. There are several instances in which the whole of the curate's remuneration is only £30 per annum.

A singular accident befel the Rev. P. Joliffe, the incumbent of St. James's, Sherborne. He was in his study in the afternoon, and accidentally let one of his shoes fall from the window on the leads beneath; in endeavouring to recover it, he over-balanced himself and fell out of the window—about fourteen feet from the ground. He was not much hurt.

At the sale of the property of the late Mr. George Ward, at Northwood Park, Isle of Wight, last week, Messrs. Emanuel, goldsmiths to the Queen, purchased a beautiful Egyptian statue of Antinous, in dove-coloured marble, the size of life, displaying the finest symmetry and proportion. This statue was sent by Napoleon Bonaparte as a present to Murat, King of Naples.

The vessel having been captured by a British ship, the case containing the statue was taken to Gibraltar, at which place it was purchased by Mr. Ward, and removed to England. It is said that the purchase is for Osborne house.

It is understood to be in contemplation to erect a monastery on an extensive scale near the Roman Catholic Chapel in Rugby, land having been purchased for that purpose. Several novices are at present in course of probation for this new religious foundation.—*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*.

The Hull public baths, erected by the bankers, merchants, and gentry of this town, in elegant style, a few years ago, are, we hear, to be closed in a few days for want of support.—*Hull Packet*.

The City of London board of guardians have resolved to throw open their doors to the public press during discussions.

A Brazilian house in Liverpool shipped a quantity of Manchester goods, some months ago to Buenos Ayres. Finding the market closed up, and no sale for the articles, they were reimported, and the shippers recently

sold them, in Manchester, at a profit of twelve per cent. after paying freight and all other charges.

Eighteen firms in Manchester have subscribed £100 each towards the fund for establishing a public library and reading-room for the working classes of that town. The total amount subscribed for the purpose is said to be nearly £3000.

There are now in the gaol of Ennis 518 prisoners; three times the number for which it was built. The great majority of them are charged with stealing turnips, potatoes, and other articles of food; most of the remainder with the terrible crime of beggary!

A book from a country depositor in the Lewes Savings' Bank was handed to the manager in attendance last Saturday, with a note requesting payment of the balance, which appeared to be £28, the whole deposit being £72, and the withdrawals £34. On reference to the ledger the balance was found to be only 6s. Mr. Bartlett, who has been actuary about twenty years, denied that there was defalcation, and affirmed that the whole was a mistake. The managers appear not to be satisfied with this explanation, as they have issued a notice stating that "in consequence of the continued serious illness of the actuary, and some unexplained recently discovered errors in the accounts, the bank will be closed until further notice."

James Brown, the man charged with stealing a bag of letters from a letter-carrier named Peckham, at the corner of Leadenhall-street, has been committed for trial. No further evidence has been adduced. The prisoner said nothing, but seemed satisfied at being sent to prison.

Mr. W. Archer, builder, of Portland-town, was on his way home from the Bank, last Saturday, with £209 in gold, which he had drawn to pay his workmen: he entered an omnibus, and at the same moment a man about thirty-five years, dressed in a brown paletot, took his seat beside him, followed by a female carrying an infant. Near the Angel the woman was seized with hysterics, causing great alarm and confusion amongst the rest of the passengers. The omnibus being stopped, she was carried out and taken to a surgeon's, when it was found that the man in the brown paletot was missing; he had forgotten to pay his fare, and on Mr. Archer's feeling for his money he discovered that it was gone also. Suspicion was aroused, and on going to the surgeon's it was found that the woman had recovered with miraculous celerity, and departed.

A gang of "navvies" who had been drinking all Saturday afternoon at the Red Lion Inn, Otley, near Bolton Abbey, on their way home to their lodgings, began to break the windows of several houses in a drunken frolic. Of course the inhabitants came out to see who the rioters were, and an attempt was made to remonstrate with them for their outrageous conduct. This made the drunken "navvies" still more furious, and several of them ran about with knives, stabbing all they came near. One man was killed by a deep cut which he received in the thigh. Six other persons were stabbed, including a married woman, who was stabbed in the thigh, and who was dangerously ill. An inquest was held upon the body of John Dawson, the man who was stabbed, when a verdict of wilful murder was returned against four of the navigators, who have been apprehended and committed to York Castle.

From the official return of the estimated damage to property in Dublin and the environs caused by the hail storm of last week, it appears that in four of the six divisions of which the metropolitan police district consists, the number of squares of glass broken in houses has been 294,302, and the total estimated loss, including damage to roofs of houses, furniture, vegetable gardens, &c., amounts to £21,388 9s. 4d. The total loss is estimated at £27,000.

As several men were employed on Monday at the new Houses of Parliament, in raising a huge mass of stone, weighing nearly three tons, the wheels of the pulley snapped, and the stone fell. Three men were underneath at the time, all of whom were severely injured, but only one of them dangerously so.

An alarm was spread, on Tuesday afternoon, that Drury Lane Theatre was on fire. Hundreds come rushing from all quarters, and the dense body of smoke which surrounded the building seemed to warrant a supposition that the fire had obtained a firm hold of the interior. It was shortly ascertained that the smoke was proceeding from the roof of the theatre, over the facade, and sparks were observed to rise into the air as if carried by a considerable draught. The fire was soon extinguished, and the amount of damage done is very small.

It is stated in a Mayo paper that a wholesale process of eviction has been resorted to by the mortgagees and present holders of the Martin estate in the west of Galway. Six hundred and fifty ejectment decrees have been obtained, by means of which 3000 or 4000 persons will be thrown upon the world; and in fact means, it is asserted, are being adopted for the total clearance of the tenantry from those estates, so as to make the lands a more marketable commodity.

A tenant-right deputation from Ulster had an interview with Sir Robert Peel on Wednesday. It stated that great excitement prevails throughout the agricultural districts of the north of Ireland on the tenant-right question, and the determination of the people universally is, to accept no compromise short of a legal recognition of the prescriptive rights of Ulster. A national league between the north and south of Ireland is in course of formation, and arrangements are in progress for assembling a tenant-right commission in Dublin in the course of a few weeks.

The second anniversary dinner of the Whittington Club was held in the large room of the club-house on Wednesday. Charles Lushington, M.P., presided on the occasion. Among the visitors present were Lord Nugent, M.P., Mr. and Mrs. Lushington, Mr. J. Mac-

gregor, M.P., Mr. J. Wyld, M.P., Mr. Francis Mowatt, M.P., Lord Dudley Stuart, M.P., Mr. Wilson, M.P., Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Jerrold, Mr. and Mrs. Cowden Clarke, the Reverend J. Austin, Mr. Robert Hunt, Mr. Charles Knight, Mr. and Mrs. Ashurst, Mr. J. Auldjo, F.R.S., &c.

The report of the progress made by the association was satisfactory; the number of members at present on the books amounting to 1853, including 93 life members. The statements of receipts and expenditure and of the assets and liabilities showed a decrease in the liabilities of about £30. The annual expenses, however, amount to about £2800; an income of £3000, and not less than 2000 members, are said to be necessary in order to place the institution in a desirable state, and for accumulating a fund for library furniture and other requisites. The committee congratulated the association upon the accession of Lord Brougham to the list of vice-presidents: he had, in the kindest manner, offered the institution the use of the elaborate philosophical apparatus with which he conducted his recent experiments on light, and had also sketched the diagrams required to illustrate a lecture on the subject. Toasts were proposed and speeches were made in the course of the evening by Lord Nugent, M.P., Mr. Wilson, M.P., Mr. Douglas Jerrold, Mr. Charles Knight, and Mr. Robert Hunt.

The Paris correspondent of the *Globe* furnishes the following anecdotes. You are aware that the Countess of Landsfeldt, or, as she is generally called, Lola Montes, arrived in Paris about three weeks ago from Boulogne and Spain, after several vain attempts to induce Mr. Heald to return to her. She had sent two persons to London charged to discover him, and use every possible argument to get him to join her, and on their failure even to obtain an interview with Mr. Heald, she placed her interests in the hands of a shrewd and able man named L—, who had on several occasions been her *homme d'affaires*. This person not only contrived to have an interview with Mr. Heald, but also to induce him to return to the Countess, and make reparation for the way in which he had left her in Spain, without friends, and at that time, without pecuniary resources. Mr. Heald kept his word, joined the Countess at Boulogne, and, by means of an agent in Paris, took a lease at a rental of 16,000 francs a-year, of a beautiful house at Beaujon, on the Champs Elysées. This house he has furnished at an outlay of at least £3000, and he has also paid several old debts of the Countess. They have a large establishment of servants, but Mr. Heald is, they say, a man of order, and takes care to live within his income. As to that of Lola Montes, it is by no means so large as had been supposed. Her settlement from Mr. Heald scarcely exceeds a fifth of the amount which has been stated in the journals, and her pension from the King of Bavaria, which was at first £140 per month, has been reduced by the king one-half, in consequence of her having married without his consent.

We are sorry to learn that the Prussian Government has rejected Mr. Fairbairn's proposal to throw an iron tubular bridge across the Rhine at Cologne, although it had been approved by the whole of the scientific world, and was sanctioned by the King of Prussia. The plan which they prefer to Mr. Fairbairn's is that of a suspension bridge, so that, instead of being able to run the railway trains across, without any stoppage, as in the Britannia-bridge, they will have to draw them over by men or horses, at very slow rate, in order to prevent the rickety structure from being deranged. Mr. Fairbairn has addressed a letter on the subject to Baron Humboldt, in which he complains of the treatment he has received. In the following extract from it he makes some severe remarks on the mistake which the Prussian Government has committed:—

"So far as words can be allowed to convey an intimation of a genuine conviction, M. Van der Heydt acknowledged at the Palace on the 1st of November last, that no structure should ever be allowed to cross the Rhine which was not calculated to meet with perfect security the utmost requirements of the most extended traffic, and the possible contingencies of great military operations. Your own enlarged conceptions at once prompted you to acknowledge that the design (which, at that time, had received the sanction of the authorities) was totally unfit for these purposes, and to admit that a suspension-bridge, owing to its strength to a flexible catenary, was inadequate to the transport of heavy weights. But when I submitted the results which had been accomplished in this country by the judicious application of a material until recently untried in such structures,—when I announced the successful realization of one of the boldest conceptions of modern times—when I stated that tidal streams such as the river Conway and the Menai Straits had been crossed by solid and unyielding bridges of enormous span, which were capable, nevertheless, of sustaining ten times the greatest possible strain that the heaviest railway traffic could, in practice, subject them to,—when I had shown that this new principle of construction was peculiarly adapted to surmount the numerous difficulties which the passage of the Rhine offers, by requiring very few and comparatively small piers in the stream, and thus allowing of the passage of large timber-rafts in the summer, and offering the least possible resistance in times of floods and breaking up of ice in the winter, and, above all, when I had proved that a structure so much superior could be erected and fixed at an outlay considerably below that which had been demanded for a very imperfect one,—I confess I was not prepared to find the Minister of an enlightened and powerful people asking for the assistance of the whole world to perpetuate a scheme unworthy of Prussia, unworthy of the practical scientific knowledge of the age, and in opposition to the deliberate and carefully-weighed opinion of science's greatest ornament."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Several complaints have reached us respecting difficulties in obtaining copies of the *Leader*. There are many reasons for such difficulties in the way of a new journal, and the causes are various. In any case of delay or obstruction, however, subscribers had better communicate directly with our publisher, Mr. Joseph Clayton, Junior, 265, Strand, London.

The communication mentioned by H. B. has slipped out of our sight; but it has not been intentionally overlooked. We shall be happy to hear from him again.

Royalty is a fact not to be overlooked by any complete newspaper. Moreover, the royal classes have their rights and claims, as well as any other class; and we cannot but assert their equality, in the teeth of a Democratic friend who gives us very trenchant advice.

POSTSCRIPT.

SATURDAY, April 27.

Before the House of Commons went into committee of supply last evening, Mr. DISRAELI said he thought they ought not to vote any more money till they were put in possession of the financial statement for the year. It was of great importance that this statement should be made early in the year, and to do the Government justice they had begun early enough in the session; but unfortunately the budget, which was opened nearly two months ago, was not yet finished. In 1848 the Government began their financial statement on the 17th of February, and did not bring it to a close until the 25th of August.

"I will shortly remind the House of that remarkable circumstance, for we may be about to enter into circumstances of a similar nature, and her Majesty's Government may be about to adopt the same identical career with that of the year 1848. In the year 1848, her Majesty's Ministers, in the course of the financial exposition, got entangled with the sugar duties. Her Majesty's Ministers, in 1848, produced a new Sugar Bill that was not successful. They withdrew it, and produced a second one, which met a similar fate. A third Sugar Bill was produced, and all those bills were accompanied with schedules, as we see in recent bills, schedules very similar to those schedules that were lately criticized in this house so successfully.—(laughter)—that her Majesty's Ministers at this time find themselves in the same position as in the year 1848."

Is there to be the same delay this year? Nearly two months have already elapsed, yet no one knows what Ministers intend to do.

"It is of great importance, especially after the late division or divisions of that kind, that her Majesty's Government should tell us whether they will proceed, I will not say with their measure respecting the stamps, for that measure is entirely given up, but whether they intend to introduce a new measure. If they introduce a new measure, they are again, we may say, commencing their financial exposition. All that has happened hitherto is the repeal of one excise duty; but no person can say that is the budget of the Government. All that recommends it is, that it repeals the duty on an article of excise; and as it is the repeal of an excise duty, and not of a customs duty, it is recognized as a salutary principle. I know it is usually supposed that some indulgence is always to be exhibited towards the finances of a Whig Ministry. (A laugh.) We cannot, it is considered, expect that the Government should excel in every branch. (Laughter.) The foreign policy of the Government, by its peremptory decrees, maintains the dignity of the country, and, by its numerous blockades, vindicates the supremacy of the seas. (Cheers and laughter.) The Colonial-office, by its ingenuity in manufacturing constitutions, upholds the well-won reputation of this country by being the patrons of Liberalism throughout the world.—(Laughter)—and there is always in the pigeon-holes of a Whig cabinet a traditional policy that inevitably renders Ireland rich and England contented. (Laughter.) These are things that compensate for an apparent deficit, and sometimes for supporting a proposition to double the income-tax. (Laughter and cheers.) And I agree with the majority of the House that the finances of the country is a subject that should always be treated with indulgence; but there is a limit even to Parliamentary patience, and as two months have elapsed since we had their financial exposition from the Government, and, so far as we can form an opinion, there is no prospect whatever of their ideas being fulfilled and completed, I think it would be indiscreet on our part hastily to vote the public money without giving those gentlemen an opportunity of clearly telling us what their intentions are."

As for the Stamp Act, he assumed that no more would be heard of that aggravated case of Ministerial incompetence. What, then, is to be done with the surplus? Ministers have declared their intention to employ a portion of it in granting relief to the agricultural interest: if such is their intention, why not announce it? Agricultural distress is not less severe than it was two months ago:—

"Now, we are told by a high authority, a member of the Government in another place, that this unprecedented depression of the agricultural classes is an exceptional case; but exceptional in what respect? Are we to understand that low prices are exceptional? Why, I thought it was to obtain low prices you changed your legislation. (Hear, hear.) I cannot agree that the circumstances are exceptional, and it is not to the credit of this House, of the present Government, or of the late Government, to believe that the circumstances are exceptional. (Hear, hear.) If wheat were selling, for instance, at 80s. the quarter, I can understand the logic that would tell me that the circumstances are exceptional; but when it is selling at 30s. the quarter, instead of denouncing

the circumstances as exceptional, you ought to tell us the fact is most legitimate. (Hear, hear.) By the unhappy fact of which we are aware, notwithstanding the logical deductions of the new philosophy, we must look upon this state of things as one of a very permanent character, and it is, therefore, still more important that her Majesty's Ministers should inform us what they intend to do for the relief of the agricultural interest, assuming, as I do assume, that their legislation respecting the stamps is defunct. (Hear, hear.) If it were necessary to relieve the agricultural interest three months ago, and if to do so was the spontaneous suggestion of her Majesty's Government, it is more necessary now that they should come forward and offer that relief; and, on an occasion like the present, when we are asked as a matter of course to form ourselves into a committee of supply to vote away the taxes which are wrung from a suffering community, the most suffering part of which it is our unhappy lot to represent, it is not too much to tell the Government that the time is gone by when it can be a matter of course for any Ministers to have a committee of supply while their financial exposition is still imperfect—I will not say disgracefully imperfect, for hard phrases do not mend a case; and when a part of its completion is, the relief from taxation of a suffering interest of the community. I invite her Majesty's Ministers, before they expect us to vote away the public funds, to come forward and tell us distinctly whether they mean to proceed with another attempt to complete their budget on their original scheme, and if not, what they propose to do for the relief of the suffering agricultural classes of this country."

Lord JOHN RUSSELL did not think it worth while—(*Cheers from the Ministerial benches*)—to delay the business of the House for such unimportant information as Mr. Disraeli had just been giving them. Besides, the greater part of that information was incorrect. Nothing could be more plain than the course which the Chancellor of the Exchequer proposed to pursue, and, therefore, he (Lord John) should decline the invitation to go into detail respecting what Government intends to do. But, as Mr. Disraeli had called attention to the policy of Ministers, he (Lord John) could not help calling attention to the wavering and inconsistent policy which that gentleman had pursued. At the opening of the session he had propounded a plan of finance, which, whether advisable or not as a whole, had this grand feature in it, that there was always to be a considerable surplus over expenditure for the purpose of a sinking-fund to keep the funds high. Such was the scheme at the opening of Parliament; but, no sooner was the amendment negatived than Mr. Disraeli began to change his policy; and for the last month, whenever anybody brought forward a motion, whether it were paper, or marine insurances, or anything else, however little it might affect the agricultural interest, from whomever it might come—it might be from Mr. Milner Gibson, or any person entertaining strong opinions on free trade—Mr. Disraeli and his friends had been only eager to diminish the revenue below the expenditure. The course they were pursuing now was calculated to bring the revenue below the expenditure, and impair the national credit:—

"Some persons might fancy that, if this were done, the House of Commons would find itself obliged to reimpose those taxes for protection—(*Cheers from the Opposition, and counter-cheers*)—those taxes on corn, on provisions, and other articles of general consumption, which it had been the policy of late Governments to reduce, and, by the cheer which he had heard—(*Renewed cheers, which drowned the rest of the sentence*). Well, really it seemed, he must say, a most wild goose chase to imagine that because a certain number of gentlemen had voted with them for the reduction of the tax on windows, or paper, that they would thereby find themselves in a majority in favour of the restoration of protection, and that a majority would be found to restore that which went to enhance the price of food in this country—(*Deprecatory 'No, no!' from the Protectionists, and cheers from other quarters*). He must say that a more visionary expectation never appeared to have entered the mind of man—(*Renewed cheers*)."

In allusion to certain remarks of the Duke of Richmond that the farmers were beginning to ask for a reduction of the interest on the National Debt, Lord JOHN said:—

"He did not think it wise that such notions should be set afloat, especially in high places. He believed that no such notion would obtain any credence or support amongst the people of England generally; and he thought really that it would be far better if honourable gentlemen opposite, instead of abandoning all their own views in order to endeavour to get into a majority by following in the train of his right honourable friend the member for Manchester, would resort to their own policy, and would state plainly to the House whether they intended to adhere to Protection or to abandon it, whether they kept it in reserve for some future occasion, or whether, as in fact he believed was the case, though they did not venture to say it to the farmers of this country, they utterly despaired of regaining a protective duty."

Lord JOHN MANNERS denied that the Protectionists were regardless of maintaining public credit. Mr. JOSEPH HUME blamed both Ministers and their opponents. If the Protectionists wanted relief they ought to support him in his motions for the reduction of wasteful expenditure.

The House then went into a committee of supply, but the hour being so late (midnight), no business was done.

Sir J. PAKINGTON called attention last evening to the controversy between the Marquis of Westminster and the ratepayers of Chelsea respecting the expenses of making and maintaining the King's-road, Eaton-square. He contended for the propriety of relegating the question to a court of law. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL explained that the Marquis of Westminster and the trustees of the parish highways were equally in fault in allowing the road in question to remain in a state of neglect; but added many arguments to show that the case was not one in which the Crown could properly appear as prosecutor. After a short conversation the subject dropped.

Cape of Good Hope papers to the 3rd of March have arrived. They are filled with accounts of rejoicing. The Neptune left Simon's Bay on the 21st of February. £100 had been raised by the Anti-Convict Association to be distributed among the convicts. The colonists celebrated their triumph with ringing of bells and with a brilliant illumination. The 8th of March was appointed for a "General Public Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the deliverance of the colony from the dreadful calamity with which it had been threatened."

Rome continues quiet. The Pope has visited the French hospital to distribute rosaries, medals, &c. This was his first excursion. His reception was very cold: no applause was heard, and people avoided the streets through which he was passing.

The *Moniteur* published a decree by the President of the Republic, reducing the expeditionary army in Italy to one division, commanded by General Gouraud.

The Court of Cassation in France gave, on Thursday, a most important judgment, deciding that according to the terms of the law of July 27, 1849, it is not allowable to sell writings or newspapers, even inside houses, without being furnished either with a book-eller's license, or an authorisation of the Prefect of Police.

The Bosnian insurrection is said to be gaining ground. One fortified place after the other opens its gates to the revolutionary party, which is well supplied with arms and ammunition. All the Turkish *employés* have been driven out of Turkish Croatia, and it is reported that the Vizier of Bosnia has been dismissed by the Porte, and Osman, the Pasha of the Herzegovina, appointed in his stead.

The following is a list of May meetings to take place, mostly to be held in Exeter-hall:—

Wesleyan Missionary, April 29; Naval and Military Bible, April 29; Church Missionary, April 29; Church Instruction, April 30; British and Foreign Bible, May 1; Prayer Book and Homily, May 1; Colonial Church, May 1; London City Mission, May 2; Irish Society, May 2; Sunday School Union, May 2; Church of England Young Men's Society, May 2; London Society for Jews, May 3; Religious Tract Society, May 3; Voluntary School Association, May 3; Sailors' Home and Asylum, May 4; London Hibernian, May 5; British and Foreign School, May 5; Church Pastoral Aid, May 6; London Missionary, May 6; Church Pastoral Aid, May 7; Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, May 7; London Hibernian, May 8; London Missionary, May 8; Town Mission and Scripture Readers', May 9; Ragged School Union, May 14; British and Foreign Sailors', May 14; British and Foreign Sailors, May 15; British Reformation, May 16; Festival of Sons of Clergy, May 16; Ladies' Negro Education, May 20; Foreign Aid, May 21; Propagation of the Gospel, June 19.

Dr. Murray has ordered *Té Deums* for the Pope's return in every Roman Catholic church and chapel in his diocese.

The Court of Queen's Bench has ordered a writ of *mandamus* to the corporation of Dublin, commanding them to proceed to the election of a Lord Mayor. The application, which was made in the name of Mr. Samuel Wauchob, was for the issue of a peremptory *mandamus*; but the court, notwithstanding the arguments pressed by Mr. Brewster in support of the application, made the order conditional, with six days' notice to show cause.

Two soldiers of the Seventy-fourth Highlanders committed suicide at the Colmell Barracks, on Monday last, while in a state of intoxication, by shooting themselves with their own muskets.

A deputation, to represent the injury resulting to the planters of Ceylon and other colonies, from the adulteration of coffee with chicory and other substances, had an interview with Earl Grey on Thursday, at the Colonial office.

Mr. William Hall, a farmer, charged Moses Annett, a labourer, with pulling him off his horse on the high road, and stealing eighteen-pence out of his pocket. Annett's defence was one rather out of the common. He said that some time back he had caught Mr. Hall with his wife, and the latter had thereupon promised him £50 to say nothing about it. He had given him several sums of money, but had latterly put him off with promises only, and he had told him to meet him on this said morning for the purpose of receiving some more. When he stopped him on the road Mr. Hall refused to give him any, so he pulled him off his horse, put his hand in his pocket, and pulled out a shilling and a fourpenny-piece, but flung them on the ground again, and saying he would not have that, walked off. Mr. Hall denied the statement. The bench then told the man that he stood committed to take his trial at the assizes; but they would accept bail for his appearance. The man's father offered himself as one of the bail, and, though objected to by Mr. Hall, was accepted by the bench. Another surety was to be forthcoming next morning.—*Worcester Chron.*

The Leader.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 1850.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in its eternal progress.—DR. ARNOLD.

THE NEW REFORMATION.

THE Earl of Arundel and Surrey joins us in proclaiming "a new Reformation"—he with fear, we with hope. But though mingled in the statement with error—and the hereditary Catholic Peer is bound by his birthright to err uncompromisingly—the fact of the coming event stands out, distinct and true, unavoidable to the sight even of detecting fear. So opinion succeeds opinion, as humanity outgrows its own monuments.

"Apollo from his shrine
Can no more divine
With hollow shriek the steep of Delphos leaving;"

and now Lord Surrey cries out under the irrepressible force of the truth that blanches his lips while he utters it unbidden.

"Somewhere about three centuries ago," he said "there was a great convulsion in men's minds, and that which is commonly known as the Reformation took place (*Hear, hear*). At that time the Scriptures were set up in place of the teaching of the Church. (*Hear, hear*). I do not say whether that was right or wrong. But now we are arrived at another period, when the Scriptures are laid aside, and we are taught this by a school which has been eagerly praised and supported by the press. (*Hear, hear*). It is extraordinary what damage this school is doing, and I say that we are on the eve of another great change in the human mind. This I regard as a mere skirmishing party, and I have no doubt it will be easily driven in upon the present occasion. But I ask the House to consider that this is not the last attack, that the two armies are drawing together, that the battle is religion or no religion, God or the devil, and the issue Heaven or hell."

So say we, but not with fear: we are in the battle, and we claim to be fighting for religion—which Lord Surrey would not permit to free itself from the struggles of the Dark Ages. We agree that the battle is between God eternal and the "Devil" man-devised; the real Devil that in the name of dogma prevents man from serving his fellow; the Devil that prevents our public men, in this day, from carrying the light of education among the benighted and the vicious, lest they should learn to know sound opinion from dogma, good government from bad. We agree that the issue is Heaven or Hell—but to us the Hell is in the earthly discord of the past; the Heaven awaits those who hope, and endeavour, and trust without fear or reservation in the beneficence of God. Lord Surrey is an honest and an earnest man, and we thank him for coming manfully and sincerely to the contest. It cannot be avoided: we have many a Surrey to conquer, many an Ashley to subdue, before the victory; but it will be most speedily ended if diligently undertaken,—now; and it will be least mischievously waged, if most sincerely and generously urged.

Let us then see how the ground is to be taken upon either side.

Lord Surrey spoke with the concurrence of the men in the House who specially arrogate to themselves the title of "religious": by name, by text, and spirit, he denounced a particular set of men—the Author of *Christian Theism*, the Author of *Reverberations*, Francis Newman, Frederick Foxton, Theodore Parker, Froude. These he regards as the "skirmishing party": we are not aware that they constitute "a party" at all; but unquestionably these men have in common among them the courageous sincerity which makes them speak out thoughts that are working, more or less distinctly, in the minds of multitudes; and as the stubborn bank which breaks the stream of drifting snow converts that to a solid mass, so the stubborn if not active resistance which the new movement is to meet from the Surreys and Ashleys of public life, will inevitably create a "party" out of the now scattered family of "Spiritualists." It is well that we should distinctly perceive that tendency and that necessity. The "skirmishing

party" is to be "driven in"—unless it can call up the main force. If, then, the leaders are true to their own cause, they will joyfully accept the challenge of Surrey.

We do not fear the contest—we hope everything from it. For it is opened with unwanted elements of success on our side. Orthodoxy, Dissent, and Scepticism, will be put to their mettle,—made to show the strength that is in them; for new spirit contests the ground with all of them; and it is a spirit stronger than any of them.

The new movement is not dogmatic. It is able to recognise the duty of opposition to itself on the part of those whose convictions have not been won. As we desire to get at the utmost truth which Man is capable, at this stage, of comprehending, we desire to have out the whole of what is in men's minds. Let any resist us according to their convictions—it cannot be too earnestly. Let them, if they so hold it, call us wicked, presumptuous, Godless: we court perfect openness, and if those thoughts are in the mind, it furthers the end we have in view that they should be explicitly on the lips. Seeing how men are born and bred in error and bigotry, we sustain with equal mind a bitterness that we have no motive to retaliate. We invite a resistance genuine, unstinted, effective, thorough-going; and we are prepared to encounter it, not weakly nor yieldingly, but with the generous faith in others' motives that justifies our own resolve to carry forth our doctrine by any influence or substantial power that we may acquire. Our object is to overbear that resistance; but we will spare pain to others rather than to ourselves. Our hand unchecked by conscious cruelty, our sight unblinded by compelled conviction, we shall see the more clearly and act the more vigorously.

The new movement is not destructive. It is opposed to no genuine influence. Allied even to its opponents in the common faith, inborn to man—the belief in the Sempiternal God—it acknowledges successive creeds as human efforts to define and perfect that faith eternal and universal; it can, therefore, respect the sincere tenets of all—can honour the divine element assured to all; and can take counsel freely with all.

But one thing is necessary to all who would share and aid this great movement—a thorough reliance in themselves and in the force of the truth. The tendency of the day, unquestionably, is to Realism; but not of that imperfect kind which has been called in days not far distant Materialism or Utilitarianism. We know better than to account inert substance as the only reality, or as the type of the real creation; or only those things precious which are "useful." But the tendency is to ascertain what in point of fact existing things are to our sense and understanding, and to speak of them explicitly and directly. Hence the new religious movement refuses to admit circumlocutions, equivocations, and presumptions; and yet it will deal candidly with those errors and foibles. The presumption of the Atheist, as gross as that of the Mussulman, will find the tolerance due to all sincere efforts of the mind; we will do our best to defend *any* conviction against the weapons of cant. The new school does not fall in with the equivocating use of terms which affects to treat as "Christian" doctrines not properly so classed. If we have trust in the force of the truths on which we rely, we give those truths their full strength by removing all the masking rubbish of double speech. Seeking liberty for religion, we must attest the freedom we claim, and at once, at least in our own language, treat all convictions as being upon an equality in the right of discussion. This is taking a position which is in terms somewhat in advance of that taken by Mr. Roebuck, in his admirable speech on Fox's bill; but in this case the advanced position is the strong position. If the promoters of the new Reformation flinch, not only do they encourage coward tyranny to oppress—for tyranny ever delights most to oppress the willing—but they forego half of their own strength—all the strength they derive from their own freedom of speech and action. A reverential frankness must mark the progress of the new Reformation; a resolve to develop rather than to destroy, but to yield none.

If ever enterprise could inspire its followers it is this one. What is the state of the world before us? Wonderful material progress, with much human misery, and a mockery of effort to redeem vice and degradation; public men listless in the service of their country; class arrayed against class; ministers of religion quarrelling about creeds and formularies, while religion forgets its function of influencing the life of men or the conduct of

affairs; "religion" to this day so called, corroborating the denunciation of the sceptic, just as the Pagan cruel creeds corroborated the sceptic Lucretius, in the day of "the Heathen," urging man to oppress, repudiate, and revile his fellow. The divine influence is desecrated not more by perversion than by absolute prostration. To restore religion to its function it must be emancipated, and to achieve that blessed end is the object of the new Reformation which Lord Surrey proclaims.

POSITION OF THE PUBLIC EDUCATIONISTS.

SUCCESS involves responsibilities of its own. The progress made by the Public Education Party, within these few weeks, has been so decided as to prove how easily the party might do much more: to do that much more becomes a duty. Of course the opposition which has been offered will not operate to deter, but rather to encourage the Public Educationists; and the trimming position of the Government in like manner invites a vigorous concentration of effort. The events of this year 1850 show that the matter is in the hands of the Educationists, if they only possess in themselves the qualities of judgment and resolution. Not that we would make light of the trouble that they will have to encounter; but that we wish them thoroughly to understand the nature of the obstruction, in order that they may know how certain their victory is to be caused by "pluck" and perseverance.

The trouble will consist in the difficulties raised by endless efforts of bigotry, in the inertness of the Government, and in the irresolution of sincere but timid friends. In this last lies the great danger. Bigotry may be as many-headed as the Hydra; but it has lost all its weapons, and is harmless, except to those that fear it. It can invoke no inquisition; it dares not even invoke any of the petty legal penalties which still disfigure the statute book; it has ceased to monopolise interest. The inertness of the Government is merely a negative evil—a want, not an active obstruction. Lord J. Russell admits that religion may be secular and *not* irreligious; but he and Mr. Hawes are struck with a fanatical deference for taxpayers and people, at home and in the colonies. Lord John can't bear the idea of Wesleyans paying an education-rate—although he does not relieve them from church-rates. But his position only amounts to this—that he is governed by the balance of his fears: he is deterred from accepting Public Education, because he is frightened at the thought of old anti-education interests; if the Public Educationists can only frighten him on the other side, he will jump to their conclusion.

This real danger, we say, lies in any misgivings on their own part, and any disposition to yield to timid counsel. There will not be wanting friends, sincere, and perhaps not the reverse of intelligent, who will advise a slow, compromising course of action. From such counsel we should appeal to the facts. The Educationists have found that an active and bold course commands respect and adhesion. Half of the oppression which bigotry exercises in this country is conventional—voluntarily endured by the oppressed. The Educationists know that they are not "anti-religious"; they know that the local rate which they propose is not a class-rate, like the church-rate—but one really for the benefit of the whole People; they know that all their objects are such as may be avowed without shame or misgiving: the best way to attain those objects, therefore, is to go straight towards them, both in speech and action. So we might conclude by mere reasoning; but already the facts are sufficient to confirm the reasoning. The Educationists find that open speaking is not only tolerated, but that it positively commands the sympathies of the public. They have obtained a great public victory in the commercial capital of Lancashire, and they have repeated that victory in the commercial capital of Yorkshire. Straightforwardness, boldness, and frankness have proved to be safe and profitable; and we exhort the party not to exchange the excellent spirit in which they have acted for a feeble one.

Some change, however, may be desirable to meet the resistance which they have encountered in Parliament through Mr. Fox's bill, and what that change ought to be is indicated, we think, by the nature of the circumstances. The Educationists should devote all their present energies to consolidating their own forces, and recruiting their front ranks with the men of the ablest heads and boldest hearts. The whole scale of public opinion might

be beneficially affected by such a course. In a career which is based upon new opinion, and has to face the storm of prejudice from uprooted old opinion—like owls disturbed in an old church-tower falling—in such a contest, above all others, fellowship is strength. The Educationists should form, not only their own local associations, but a general league—unpolitical, simple, practical in its objects; namely, to multiply and band recruits, to mature the main measure, and to devise the plans from time to time needed for improving opportunity, and furthering it. It is true that leagues have incurred some discredit, by an abuse of the title; but in the case of the Educationists it would be justified by a twofold reality—the reality of the need for the moral support of men, and the reality of the object.

THE COUNTY FREEHOLD MOVEMENT.

"THE change of the present House of Commons remaining much longer as it is, is a very small one. If affairs are allowed to progress as they are doing at present, the change, when it does come, will certainly be in a Democratic sense. No counter-project of any sort has as yet been put forth, and unless some project is devised and taken up by the Country Party, another downward step will assuredly be taken, the difficulty of retrieving which will be almost insuperable."—*Morning Herald*, April 23, 1850.

The *Herald* is generally a prophet of evil to its own friends. Nothing pleases it so much as a piece of intelligence to prove that "the Country Party" is on the point of being ruined. Six or seven years ago it predicted the repeal of the corn-law, and the event proved the truth of its predictions. Now it warns Toryism to prepare for the advent of a new Reform Bill; a prophecy of no less sure fulfilment than the one foreboding the abolition of the food monopoly, and one which Toryism is quite as impotent to retard. The *Herald* advises the Country Party to bestir itself; to take prompt and decisive measures to prevent the impending Parliamentary Reform from becoming too Democratic; and we see that a vigorous attempt is making in Birmingham to get up a counter Freehold Movement, in order to checkmate the dangerous advances which the Radicals have been making in that direction. But the present feud between landlords and tenants—which must continue till rents fall to a reasonable rate—will prevent any union of a comprehensive "Country Party" for Conservative purposes. Were the farmers able to act for themselves they might strengthen their position very much by attending to the county register, but they have been so long accustomed to move only under the guidance of the landowners that they are not likely to unite for any common object.

Meanwhile the Birmingham movement for extending the suffrage by means of the forty-shilling clause of the Reform Bill is rapidly spreading throughout the country. Many of those who disapproved of it at first as a small agitation, tending to divert men from more thorough comprehensive measures of reform, are now eager to show that, under proper guidance, it may become the speediest and most efficient means of obtaining the rights of the people. For that class of Reformers especially who took an active part in the Free Trade agitation, the County Freehold Movement seems the one best fitted to draw them together and organize their force in the direction of thorough parliamentary reform. They view the opposition to reform not in the mass, but in detail; not as a huge oligarchy, but as composed of so many borough and county Members, who are returned by a small number of voters; and who may, therefore, easily be made to do what the people want, if the number of Radicals on the register can only be judiciously increased to the extent of some forty or fifty thousand. That this might be done by the purchase of freeholds is undeniable if the people could be persuaded to save their money for that purpose. The amount of money spent by the labouring classes in debasing indulgences would purchase county freeholds for at least half a million voters in a single year. Now, as the number of persons connected with common building societies is said to be about 500,000, and as the temperance reformation is spreading widely among the working class, all that is wanted in order to give the County Freehold Movement the power which it requires is, that the desire for saving, which grows with the increase of sober habits, should be coupled with a strong desire for the possession of the franchise as a means of enforcing national economy. In that case, thousands of persons who might otherwise have joined building or money clubs, will prefer taking shares in one of

those Freehold Land Societies which are now to be found in most of our large towns.

One great excellence of the County Freehold Movement is that, even if it should not realise all such sanguine expectations, it cannot fail to effect much good in the direction of social reform. Every new freehold association is a society of men banded together by the powerful self-reliant feeling that "God helps those who help themselves"; by the strong conviction that, although the corn-law has been abolished, there are still millions of the population in misery, and that, until many other gigantic evils have been swept away, the condition of the People can never become what it ought to be. If we view it, therefore, simply as promoting the social elevation of the working classes, we must rejoice in the progress which these societies have already made and are still making. Considered in that light, there is no active project now on foot which is more manifestly entitled to the hearty support of sound philanthropists.

We have already spoken of its tendency to promote more temperate habits among the mass of the people, and we find ample corroboration of this opinion in the speeches made at the various meetings which have lately taken place. In Birmingham it is said, by those who are best acquainted with the working of the freehold societies there, that "out of £19,000 spent in the purchase of freeholds in that town, not less than £15,000 has been saved from the taverns."

Another great benefit which is likely to grow out of this movement is the formation of a new class in the community. At present there are hardly any small landed proprietors in Great Britain. Owing to various causes, too numerous and complicated for us to indicate here, the soil has gradually become the absolute possession of a few thousand families. From this cause spring many of the social evils under which society suffers. Fortunately for the people the first result of free trade will be to teach many of the landowners that it is better to sell a portion of their estates in order to clear off encumbrances, and enable them to encourage good farming on the part of their tenantry, than to go on, like the Duke of Buckingham, purchasing one estate after another with borrowed capital, till they break down under the load of accumulated bonds and mortgages. Hard though the lesson may be, the landlords will soon learn that, with wheat at 38s. a quarter, they cannot prevent rents from undergoing a fall, whatever the ultimate result may be; and if rents in general should fall to the extent of twenty or twenty-five per cent., as they ought to do, it is clear that many estates must come to the hammer. In that case there should be a powerful Freehold Society in every county, ready, by taking advantage of such opportunities, to call into existence a body of Freeholders—a class of owners of the soil working and living among the People.

WAGES IN ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

We have received a letter from Mr. Samuel Sandars in which he professes to explain why the British farmer cannot compete with his American rival, although the cost of labour is 150 per cent. higher in the United States than in England; but it seems to us that he leaves the question more confused than ever. Our position is, that the American labourer receives five bushels of wheat, or an equivalent in money, for a single week's labour, and that the English labourer does not receive more than two bushels of wheat, or its equivalent in money, for a week's labour. With such facts as these staring him in the face, we cannot understand how any man of Mr. Sandars's intelligence and undoubted honesty can talk of our being unable to compete with foreigners on account of the dearness of labour in England. If the facts we have stated be correct—and we challenge any one to contradict them—it is plain that the English farmer can buy labour for less than one-half of the price which the American farmer requires to pay for it.

This is the entire gist of the question between Mr. Sandars and us, and we do not see that he has thrown any new light upon it. But there are striking blunders in his tabular view of the elements of cost of production in America. For example, he makes the items of "interest" and "tradesmen's bills," only one half what they are in England; whereas the former is double what it is in England, and the latter at least as high as it is in this country. These, however, are minor points: the main question is the one already stated that agricultural wages in America are 150 per cent. higher than in this country; and therefore it will not do

for the landlords to assert that our farmers cannot compete with those of America because labour is so much cheaper in this country. Has not the inability of the English farmer to meet competition much more to do with another difference between the two countries, not discussed by Mr. Sandars—the difference of rents?

"THE PEOPLE!" "IT'S COMING!"

Of all romantic extravagances those are the greatest which you find current among your matter-of-fact folks. You will find among them, sometimes, notions so wild and simple, that they ought rather to be the dreams dreamed by hermits or "children of Nature." It seems that in highly-commercial and highly-political Glasgow there abides such a child of Nature, and that the *Leader* has frightened him by talking about that bugaboo "the People." The child of Nature is no other than the *Glasgow Citizen*—a most respectable journal, offshoot of the Edinburgh Whig paper, the *Scotsman*, but endowed at its birth with a more generous spirit than that of Whiggery. In sober earnestness we have expected to find in that same *Citizen* an intelligence and feeling far above the average, and in spite of his alarm at our words we still expect as much. His panic only shows what a regular ignorance is kept up among the "well-informed" classes, by the habit of placing cant for information; so that in certain points instruction is no more than the perennial cultivation of a baseless fallacy.

We had said—"If any political party would take way just now out of the stagnant slough of indifference, it must do so by carrying with it the great body of the People," and to determine whether this is "a noble truth or a paltry truism," the dear child asks—"What, then, is 'the People'?" answering his own question in this sweet prattle:

"Formerly understood 'the People' is not a mere multitude of men, with warring wills and interests, but the nation viewed as a harmonious whole, as a spiritual personage or corporation, with only one will, and that just and holy. This just and holy will of the People is, in truth, the nationalised expression of that God-implanted sentiment of right and wrong which rules in every honest human heart; it is the individual conscience of man in its phase of universality. This spiritual People is the power that sanctions all laws and gives strength and honour to all governments. From it proceeds the really 'divine right' of all kings and commonwealths. I guarantee the rights, protects the persons, and guards the liberties of individuals; and, with the consent and approval of all men, punishes every infraction of its enactments. Rulers, judges, magistrates, are but the material organs of this spiritual power; and their rule is just and beneficent, or the contrary, in proportion as it squares with the behests of this invisible authority. When legislation speaks the voice of this People it must needs be good, for then it is the expression of the moral instincts of man, and, therefore, in harmony with the laws of God."

"But this," says the good *Citizen*, "is not 'the People' of the *Leader*"; a most intelligent observation. Assuredly when we talk about the People as desirable contingent for any political party, we had not in view "this invisible authority," "this spiritual People"; for, to say the truth, we were not only unaware of its existence, but are still wholly at a loss to guess what thing on earth the dear child is talking about. It is the prettiest notion of a People that we ever heard—quite a fairy tale—the subjects of Prince Percinet, always so virtuous and happy. But the sweet *Citizen* proceeds to describe for us our own People, equally to our edification. Most truly having premised that its own pretty People is not the People of the *Leader*, our instructor proceeds:—

"With it the People is a mere mass of men; a material conglomeration of individuals; at best a numerical majority of the population, without reference to the spirituality of their wills, or the holiness of their desires. * * * The power defined and invoked by the *Leader* is not that of the universal human conscience, but the fierce material desires of the lower orders. 'The People' of the *Leader* is the incarnation, not of popular virtue, but of popular passion. It is that terrible, benighted power that can only grope its way to progress by Revolution, and whose highest triumph was a reign of Terror. His 'People' is the animal people—the savage Proletarianism of Lyons and Paris, the Plebs of Marius, the People of Marat!"

"Sha'n't, then, have a People to frighten it!—no nasty Plebs—no shocking, material, animal People, all incarnate flesh; but a nice, pretty, spiritual People, all virtuous and invisible."

Seriously, however, the excellent *Citizen* is quite mistaken in supposing that the People of the *Leader* is the monster that frightens him so. His nurse has been frightening him, naughty woman. Strange as the fact may appear, it is evident that

we here have a public journalist who does not know what the People is. By the People we mean the Twenty-in Millions that people the British Isles; we mean no one of the classes thereof, still less the small sections that are dignified by the name of the "upper classes"; but we mean the whole People, visible and tangible in flesh and blood; whereof, undoubtedly, the "lower orders" form the largest section.

But our closet friend is most of all mistaken in supposing that the People is an incarnation of bad passions, a "terrible benighted" thing; and we are perfectly sure that if the humane and intelligent *Citizen* only made acquaintance with that same People, he would be quite amazed at his own bugaboo ideas. The French child is told that Wellington is as "tall as Rouen steeple"; and our own dear Glasgow little friend has been equally misinformed about the People. The creatures called by that collective name, let him rest assured, have limbs and faculties like his own,—mind, conscience heart. They have senses, and therefore, we say, they have a right to consult their own bodily comfort and needs; they have perceptions, and can advise in their own case; they have affections, and will sympathize with you, if you do with them; they have conscience in nature just like your own, and will acknowledge the same instinctive elements of right. We might have thought it rather late in the day to be making these disclosures touching so obvious a subject; but if we find these wild romantic notions in our respectable and well-informed friend, what extravagances may not be afloat among the pensive public!

Now, we are not afraid of this great thing called the People, immense as its inherent power is. But the fact is, that there is one unfailing recipe for governing the People. Not by flattering its desires and passions, though that expedient may serve the turn of the self-seeking demagogue. Not by pampering it with luxuries—alas! the People, in its greatest numbers, is inured to privation. You may do much by appealing to the sense of justice, because conscience is not monopolised by the *Citizen's* "invisible authority." But the one rule for effectually governing the People more certain and powerful than all is this—win its affections. Appeal to the sympathies of flesh and blood, speak to the popular heart, and trust to the same affections in the living souls called People which you feel in yourself. That is the art of all true rulers; if the statesmen of our day have lost it, on their head be the responsibility of anarchy. For no free People can be governed by those who ignore its sympathies and affections. If the People is "terrible" to any class, it is because those who are answerable for controlling the immense creature have neglected their art. You will not be safe till you restore that sacred and potent influence, nor ought you to be so, "Tis conscience makes cowards of us all." If we fear the People it is because we wrong the People, in thought or act. Trust it, and it will lend you its strength.

We shall not cease to proclaim that conviction, momentous alike to People, to the classes who are taught to fear the People, and to the statesmen who profess to rule—the conviction that if you will be safe, strong, and energetic, you must have the People with you.

WRONGS OF WOMEN.

WITH the increasing refinement of the age, we notice an increasing disposition to one foible which is rather strikingly illustrated by the current literature of law and police, a certain mean sort of baseness towards women. To conform with the spirit of the day profligacy becomes sneaking.

We read of a case in which "a sickly little girl," aged sixteen, summoned the father of her child to support it. The man, father of a family already, had decoyed her and seduced her, and now professed poverty as the plea in bar of supporting his own child. His punishment is—to pay half-a-crown a-week for the keep of his own offspring.

James Phillips is charged at the Mansion House with brutally striking a girl in the streets at night. He said that she and another girl accosted him, and he only "pushed" them, fearing that they meant to rob him. "And so," said Alderman Carden, "by 'merely pushing' them away, you covered one of them with blood?" "Exactly so," answered the cool gentleman; "I might have touched her on the mouth or nose, but it was to save my pockets." Not many years back such a plea might have sufficed, but somehow magistrates have learned that women, such as Phillips struck, are fellow-creatures; Alderman Carden showed by his remarks that he can feel for their miseries, and he sent Phillips to Bridewell to reflect on the new view of "the rights of woman," hitherto so generally repudiated.

The Court of Exchequer is pondering the unfortunate reiteration of a case in which one Gibbs demands a new trial, because a jury awarded £800 to Miss Adams, a young lady whom he had faithlessly promised to marry. It was not the rashness of youth that hurried Gibbs into the promise, for he is fifty-four years of age. At the trial he pleaded that the young lady was of consumptive tendency, and he convicted her of the offence of having swallowed cod-liver oil. His counsel now tried to make the Chief Baron accept that plea; but Sir Frederick Pollock altogether declined. Mr. Sergeant Shee then recorded the magnanimous plea that £800 was excessive, since his old client really was not worth the money to a young lady. That point the Chief Baron agreed to consider. The promise-breaker would consent to a verdict of £500. Gibbs estimated himself so high! We should consider it exorbitant, if, in these cases, the "damages" were reckoned as compensation for the husband lost. Sergeant Shee is quite right in saying that Miss Adams was well quit of the promise-breaker; that, in fact, the damages ought to be considered as a fine paid by the promise-breaker for ever having intruded as a suitor at all, probably to the detriment of a young lady's prospects in other quarters. A Gibbs is quite correct in pronouncing £800 exorbitant as a compensation for himself; but the intention of a Gibbs is a trespass worth any money.

CHURCH AND STATE.

REVOLUTIONARY ideas spread space. For a particular reason we ask the reader to read what follows attentively:—

The time has arrived for the Church Unions to take up more fully the general question of the relation between Church and State in its whole bearing. It is evident that the Government, and political persons generally will be glad to give the go-by to the question as long as they can. We would also express our conviction that the union of Church and State is no dogma, or positive relation, to the maintenance of which, in any particular way, Churchmen are pledged; but that its arrangement must depend very much on the character of the State, which varies indefinitely, while the Church is one and invariable; and that the principle on which the Church should proceed, is to obtain the best terms it is able; reserving always the privilege of breaking off the connection, if the terms allowed by the State are such as interfere essentially with its functions. We have arrived at a state of things in which it is evident that there is only one alternative; either there must be a readjustment of some points, or the union between Church and State will certainly, ere long, be dissolved.

Now does not that paragraph seem to you exceeding good sense? Quite suited, in short, to the place which it graces in our columns? You think that we have written it, and we have no great objection to your supposing it ours. But it is not: although we have not put marks of quotation, it is from the *English Churchman*.

CLERICAL RAILING.

A VERY good suggestion has been made, and has been adopted by the Common Council of London, to improve St. Paul's and the area in which it stands, by removing the dwarf wall and iron railing, and thus clearing a space for view and motion. An open space in a busy quarter is a pleasing sight: crowded, railed St. Paul's is not a pleasing sight; a disfigurement was to be made into an ornament. But the Dean and Chapter will have none of it: they will let the people within the rails, but must have power of shutting out the public, in order to an occasional leisurely contemplation of the edifice! It seems that the Dean and Chapter confess the soft impeachment of an occasional idolatry, and cannot forego the fond contemplation of their church bodily. As to identifying the church with the progress of improvement, and so winning a fresh lease from the goodwill of the citizens, that they account surplusage.

WHAT'S O'CLOCK?

NUMBERS and music go together. Alfred Novello, an hereditary musician, who puts a soul of art into a driving trade, desires to set our dial-face in order, and to simplify railway time-tables; to which ends, from time to time, he issues exhortations on the subject to the public in general:—

"The Northern nations," he says, "by common consent, begin each day of the month immediately after midnight, which is, no doubt, the best arrangement; but it appears an objectionable custom to stop short at noon, half way in the day, and begin a second series of twelve hours, called by the same numbers as the previous twelve, because it becomes necessary to distinguish the hours of each series by supplementary words—as morning, afternoon, evening, night; ante-meridian, post-meridian, &c. the abbreviations. The objections to the custom have become more evident since the increase of railways; for it is found difficult to insert these distinguishing words in the close tables used to convey information of the arrivals and departures of railway trains."

Then follows a table of most convincing figures; after which our guide, philosopher, and music-seller, enlarges on the imperfection of Bradshaw, with instances that are truly appalling. We must confess that Bradshaw is

to us an inscrutable mystery, and we believe that none but clergymen and freemasons are initiated. But Alfred Novello has cracked the egg of Columbus:-

"For it would be sufficient to ensure the general adoption of the plan of calling the hours of a day from 1 to 24, if only the authorities of the Post-office and the Railway Companies were to begin with it; and if the railway time-books were to contain on their last page the *table of hours*, with a running head-line at the top of each page to this effect:-'The hours in these tables are numbered 1 to 24, beginning from midnight,' most persons would learn the arrangement in a month."



Open Council.

There is no learned man but will confess he hath much profited by reading controversies, his senses awakened, and his judgment sharpened. If, then, it be profitable for him to read, why should it not, at least, be tolerable for his adversary to write.—MILTON.

WHEAT PRICES.—MR. S. SANDARS'S CASE.

SIR.—Having received a number of your paper, sent through the medium of my publisher, requesting me to explain the apparent anomaly of the British Farmer not being able to compete with the American Farmer, the former only giving 2 bushels a week for the wages of labour, and the latter giving (as you assume) 5 bushels a week for wages, and likewise "how I can shew that 20s. worth of labour is embodied in the cost of British wheat at 50s. per quarter, I have no hesitation in giving you the following general approximations in answer to these questions:-

In my essay on the productive cost of corn, I have assumed the cost of cultivating an acre of arable land in this country, when wages are 9s. to 10s. a week, with the existing rents and taxation, to be £5 9s. per acre, and the productive cost of wheat at 50s. per quarter, and the yield 4 quarters per acre.

The following are the 10 elements of such cost:-

1. Great tithes	5s. per acre.
2. Small tithes, poor, county, high-way, and church rates.....	6s. 3d.
3. Labourer's wages	25s.
4. Tradesman's bills	4s.
5. Maintenance of horses	18s. 9d.
6. Maintenance of farmer's family, &c., &c.	13s.
7. Seed Corn	9s.
8. Casualties	1s.
9. Interest of Capital.....	7s.
10. Rent.....	20s.

£5 9s.

The elements of labour in such expenditure are as follows:-

1. Wages	26s. per acre.
2. Animal labour	18s. 9d.
3. Tradesman's bills for labour or the products of labour	4s.
4. Maintenance of the farmer for labour, if superintended, &c.	13s.
5. Proportion of seed corn that consists of 2s. 5d. cost of labour.	3s. 6d.

Divide by 4 quarters

64s. 3d.

16s. 1d. per qr.

It thus appears such element of labour-cost is 16s. 1d.; but in cultivating wheat the actual cost requires a greater quantity of labour than is expended in the general rotation of crops, and such increased amount of labour I shall assume to be 25 per cent., which gives the total cost as 20s. per quarter. The second question is one of great importance. You ask, "Why I assume the English farmer is not able to compete with the American farmer from the high rate of wages in England, whilst he only gives 2 bushels a week for the labourer's wages, and the American farmer (as you assume) gives 5 bushels a week to the American labourer?" This question can only be answered by entering upon the elementary cost of American wheat as follows:-

SUPPOSED COST OF CULTIVATING AN ACRE OF ARABLE LAND IN AMERICA.

1. Great and small tithes.....	nil.
2. Highway, church-rates, and comparatively no poor-rates	nil.

3. Labourer's wages, assuming your rate of 20s. a week	50s. 0d.
4. Tradesman's bills, one-half British	2 0
5. Keep of horses, from the cheapness of corn and hay, one-half British cost.....	9 4
6. Maintenance of farmers, one-half British	6 6
7. Seed corn, two-thirds British	6 0
8. Casualties	1 0
9. Interest of capital and rent of land, one half British cost.....	13 6

Divide by 4 quarters an acre.....) 88 4

Cost per quarter.....) 24 2

But, allowing that the wheat crop requires a greater expenditure than the general average of other crops, we will allow 25s. per quarter or.....) 6 0

Cost of wheat per quarter in the state of New York 30 0

America is a great exception to the general axioms of political economy, which assumes the cost of subsistence to regulate the wages of labour in all old and thickly inhabited countries, and such element of the cost of subsistence has hitherto been generally adopted as the measure of the wages of labour and of value, as exemplified in the fixed price of silver and gold, which is based on the supposed amount of subsistence, or so many days labour required to produce the ounce of silver and gold.

We will now proceed to test the productive cost of corn by the quantity of wheat or subsistence given for labour in cultivating arable land in Poland.

ELEMENTS OF SUCH COST.

1. Tithes	nil.
2. Poor-rates, highway, &c.	nil.
3. Wages 4d. per day, or 2s. a week, or one-fifth of British wages is 5s. 0d. per acre.	
4. Tradesman's bills one-fourth of British	1s.
5. Keep of horses, one-fourth ditto	4s. 8d.
6. Maintenance of overseer or bailiff	2s.
7. Seed corn, one-fourth	2s. 3d.
8. Casualties	6s.
9 and 10. Interest of capital and rent of land	15s.

30s. 5d.

To this add 25 per cent. for additional cost of the wheat crop 7s. 7d.

Admitting the cultivation to be less productive than British, or 3 quarters 38s. 0d. per acre.

It gives 12s. 8d. per qr.

To this sum add 7s. 4d. per quarter for transport of the wheat to the shipping ports of the Baltic and Black Sea, it gives the cost of such Polish wheats at Dantzig and Odessa as 20s. per quarter.

We thus see the Polish labourer with wages at 2s. a week, and the cost of the wheat 12s. 8d. per quarter, receives 1 bushel and 1 peck of wheat for his weekly wages. The English labourer, with wages at 9s. a week, and wheat at 48s. a quarter, or 6s. a bushel, receives 1½ bushels of wheat for his wages. Whilst an American labourer, with your assumed wages of 20s. a week, gets 5 bushels of wheat for his weekly wages. And that with such high rate of wages the productive cost of wheat is only about 30s. per quarter.

I now leave the question of competition between the British and foreign growers of corn to the consideration of those persons who may be inclined to enter further into that enquiry.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
S. S. —

SUBSISTENCE AND LAND.

SIR.—As comment rather than reply to Mr. Barton's letter, might it not be well to remark—shifting the discussion from the rights of those who want to the duties of those who have—that, so far as regards property in land, our noblest idea of society (exclusive of spiritual aims) is such organization as shall best develop earth's capabilities. If Mr. Barton's "island" be extended to the entire globe, all must subsist by the land (all cannot work on it, of course); and all, therefore, have "reason," if not "right," to desire its proper treatment.

The objection to private holding is that it interferes with this, preferring its highland deer-parks to its lowland corn-lands—its game preserves to its pastures; and it is difficult to conceive any justifiable claim to property in land that is not based on the idea of trust for the benefit of all, getting, of course, a remunerative interest for superintendence.

R. A.

THE EDUCATION OF THE POOR.

Edinburgh, April 16, 1850.

SIR.—Among the many projects for improving the condition of the masses to which every year gives birth, there is one which I have long regarded as preëminently entitled to an attentive examination,

and I gladly avail myself of the liberal arrangement of your admirable paper to make upon it a few, not hasty, but well-considered remarks.

The project to which I allude is at first sight, I most readily admit, one of the most startling which could well be conceived, nothing less, in short, than a reform in our orthography so sweeping and entire as to reduce our written language at once to a character the most perfectly phonetic. Although it is difficult to conceive that any language written by means of an alphabet, could have been originally intended to be otherwise than strictly phonetic, yet our language has for very many ages departed so far, so very far, from this character, that any proposal to bring it suddenly back to something like what it must have or would have been had it not been hampered by an imperfect alphabet, seems, to say the least, nearly absurd. Yet this is gravely proposed. Nay more, a vigorous attempt is now being made to effect it; and what is yet more surprising, this, full of novelty, comparatively speaking, as it is, has met with favour not only among the many but even among the learned—a circumstance so remarkable that proof seems almost necessary! From my own knowledge I am able to state that this is true to at least some extent. And already some men of note have declared their conviction publicly. Mr. A. J. Ellis, who last year attempted to establish a phonetic newspaper in London (much to the amusement of the wondering public, and our dear old friend Mr. Punch), is a man of varied learning and decided talent, and has devoted his time and his means to the promotion of this remarkable reform with an enthusiasm which must entitle him to the respect of all who admire generosity and public spirit. And, again, a distinguished linguist and ex-professor of literature (Dr. Latham) has lately given to the world several able papers on phonetic spelling. While looking nearer home, i.e., my home, I find a learned professor in our university filling the office of resident of a society lately formed in this city for the promotion of this reform. Moreover, when it is borne in mind that a considerable number of books have already appeared in the new spelling—including a good many reprints of notable books, among which I need only mention the Holy Bible, the Common Prayer-book, and some of the works of Shakespeare, Goldsmith, Samuel Johnson, Bunyan, &c., besides some monthly and one fortnightly periodical—while not a few of the ignorant are being taught to read on the new plan, I cannot but think that these, and a host of other facts all tending the same way, but with which it seems unnecessary to trouble you, sufficiently evince that, however startling the proposal to effect a radical reform in our spelling may be, I am at least justified in seriously bringing it under the notice of your readers.

This apology is not so long, at least, if I may judge by the way in which I find the subject set aside by some who, knowing nothing about it, unceremoniously decline to give it any part of their attention.

It is needless to disguise the fact that a long examination of the merits of the question has in my case resulted in a serious conviction of the reasonableness and the desirableness of a sweeping reform in our own very ridiculous system of spelling, and that I anxiously desire to lay before the followers of the LEADER the various circumstances which conspired to produce that result. But, sir, finding that I cannot count upon your indulging me with many more lines at present, I beg respectfully to request your acceptance of a second letter, in which I shall endeavour to furnish such information on the nature and probable consequences of the spelling reform, as may be within my reach.

In the meantime it must suffice to say that I sincerely believe the object of the promoters of this reform to be exactly what they state, namely, "to make the education of the poor possible by rendering the art of reading simple and easy to acquire."

I am, sir, obediently yours,

W. P. W.

THE OXFORD CREDIT SYSTEM.

April 23, 1850.

SIR.—The proposed remedy for the cure of Oxford extravagance and bad debts which Mr. F. Newman in your latest number backed by his great authority, appears to me, with all due deference to him, somewhat questionable. No one who has, however remotely, seen its workings, both upon the members of the university and the citizens of Oxford, but will readily admit that the credit system is a curse to all. The mere money loss must be enormous; and the loss to individuals, families, and the state, by the immoralities and sins which grow up in this hotbed of credit is beyond calculation. These facts are patent. Perhaps not even a Sibthorpe would dispute them.

But the Oxford tradesmen are in a very peculiar position. They *must* give credit. Refuse credit, and their trade would speedily diminish to a vanishing point. They are as dependent a body of men as you could find in this empire. I doubt much whether a law making shop-debts irrecoverable being passed to

morrow, the Oxford tradesmen could and would refuse credit. Nobody dares refuse credit in Oxford—except the college authorities. The evils of the credit system, and the giant growth it has attained may, in no small degree, be traced to this base and immoral dependence of the Town upon the Gown. And this unquestionable fact suggests the remedy—make the tradesmen less dependent upon their customers by greatly modifying the University Court, restoring the University to its original state, and throwing it open to all manner of honest men. The credit system is the joint product of the monopoly of the University by the Church, and that intense spirit of competition which has been fostered so much, and which has increased so much of late years. Oxford tradesmen would not cling to the credit system if they could help it. They have had astounding proofs that it is not the "way to wealth." Ponder on this fact, Sir; Oxford tradesmen seldom get rich and retire upon their savings. The book debts bar the way.

It would then be very unjust to make shop-debts irrecoverable by law. The means and character of "Oxford men" are, and always will be, often problematical. How can a tradesman discriminate, especially when he knows the consequences attending upon the word "No"? The Oxford tradesmen who will not trust the members of the University make up their minds to depend upon their fellow-citizens. Those who have made up their minds to run the risks attendant upon a University trade play a bold game. They rely upon high prices to cover certain loss. If shop-debts were made irrecoverable at law, the daring speculators would supply the University, and the calculating tradesman be driven from the field.

But, though I feel that few things would be a greater boon to Oxford than the mitigation of the credit-system, yet I do think that the remedy proposed would heighten the disease. It would make trade a lottery and a gambling speculation. The process of recovering debts is already sufficiently difficult. A tradesman who sues a debtor in the Westminster Courts gets discomfited by the University authorities; and he who sues in the Chancellor's Court gets virtually discomfited by the undergraduates! Thus Oxford debts are nearly irrecoverable; the University public opinion being nearly as efficient as a law. Still, in spite of this, desperate has been the getting in debt.

I have confined my remarks to the Oxford credit-system, because of that, only, can I pretend to know anything.

G. H.

POWER OF JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

SIR.—I wish to draw attention to the extraordinary powers vested in justices of the peace, of requiring persons to find sureties of the peace. The subject was so admirably noticed by Mr. Justice Erle, in his charge to the grand jury at the last assizes for Cornwall, that I cannot do better than quote the very words used by that learned judge.

Mr. Justice Erle observed "that there was one matter he wished particularly to direct the attention of the magistrates. He perceived by the calendar that one man was committed to prison, for a breach of the peace, for two years, or until he should find sureties; and several were sentenced, under a similar charge of breach of the peace, for twelve months and shorter periods, or until they should find sureties. For a sentence of two years' imprisonment, the offence should be one of very considerable magnitude indeed. There was no doubt such a sentence was legal, but the case ought to be very extreme in point of guilt. It was advisable to apportion punishment according to the degree of the offence. To commit a man for want of sureties, might be inflicting a long imprisonment upon a friendless man; and subjecting a man to a long imprisonment for want of friends was not a measure of penal punishment that ought to be adopted."

Now I happen to know that this practice is not confined to the county of Cornwall, but, I believe, is very generally adopted throughout England and Wales. In order to obtain accurate information on the subject, I trust that some Honourable Member, from a desire to protect the liberty of the subject, may be induced to move for a return of the numbers committed to prison for want of sureties to keep the peace during a given period, classified according to the respective periods of imprisonment. Should this return, as I anticipate, show the practice of justices of the peace in these matters to be in accordance with that existing in Cornwall, it is to be hoped that Parliament will speedily provide a remedy for the mischief.

S. W.

W. P. complains that in Miss Martineau's History of England "all mention has been studiously omitted of the efforts of the English Socialists, and of their founder Robert Owen, whose proceedings obtained so large a share of public attention," "whose meetings were presided over by royal dukes, and reported at more than ordinary length in the daily papers";—"Looking, sir, at the many small insignificant matters which Miss Martineau has dragged into her history, it does seem to me strange that the events I have alluded to should be passed entirely over; unless, indeed, it was predetermined that this class of events should be cushioned altogether. But what, then, becomes of Miss Martineau as a truthful and impartial historian?"

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review.*

THE great event of this week is the death of WILLIAM WORDSWORTH, who, grey in honours as in years, has passed quietly away from us, having to the full accomplished his mission as a poet. Last week we recorded the death of one who had long outlived his celebrity; this week we have to record the death of one who has long outlived neglect and misrepresentation. WORDSWORTH stands alone in our poetry: "his soul was like a star and dwelt apart." He is the culmination of an epoch, and stands as the representative of a revolution in taste. No one of the great poets who preceded him can be looked on as his model. An original he was in every sense; but such originality points to his great and omnipresent defect, namely, want of *geniality*, want of thorough sympathy in human passions and affections. WORDSWORTH was an astonishing, and we believe a solitary, example of great genius without geniality—or creative power without wide sympathies. Enthusiasm he had, and it was both deep and constant, but it was all for external Nature, which became as it were the mere material for his Art. For Human Nature he cared only in its picturesque aspects. Hence, even amidst the extravagance of admiration amounting often to fanaticism which his partisans express, we see little of love. WORDSWORTH is oftener read and oftener quoted than any modern poet, but what stranger has a personal regard for him? Do we not all feel that this magnificent intellect which holds itself superbly aloof from all the erring, struggling, hoping, loving crowd—which can be excited to tears by a daisy, but has only cold sermons for mankind—which moves in a small circle of emotions sacrificing man to Nature, is on the whole shut out from our hearts, though our gratitude and sympathy make us yearn to place him there?

We speak in mournfulness, and not in bitterness. To us he was wholly a stranger, and over his tomb, had he been an enemy, we could utter no asperity. If we speak at all, it is because a strong impulse moves us in paying a last tribute to his genius to draw the moral from his own exclusiveness. Let us hasten to add that his influence on men has been both extensive and unmixed *good*. He has visibly coloured the thoughts of his generation, and nowhere has he left a soil. Whatever there was of positive in his influence has been good; his defects are not moral errors so much as moral deficiencies. He may be limited, he is not perverted. He has deepened the feelings and widened the souls of many, but none has he misled.

The greatest name in the proud band of poets which made an era of this first half century—WORDSWORTH—has had the greatest prosperity, both of fortune and of fame, even allowing for the ridicule and neglect which greeted his early efforts, and now, having seen his juniors and rivals—BYRON, SHELLEY, KEATS, COLERIDGE, and SOUTHEY—one by one disappear, he, too, passes away, leaving ROGERS, MOORE, LEIGH HUNT, and WILSON as the last glories of that race.

The Laureateship is vacant, and the *Times* suggests that it be abolished. We can only agree with that suggestion if some other honour be substituted. Small as it is, the Laureateship is still a prize, and after SOUTHEY and WORDSWORTH cannot be ridiculous as a title. The choice of the Laureate can scarcely be open to hesitation. There is one name which may be said peremptorily to claim it as a due—to claim it in virtue of genius, long suffering, personal attachment to the Queen, and uncontested popularity. We have named LEIGH/HUNT.

Otherwise the week has been unusually flat. The only gossip has been originated by the strange advertisement in the *Times*: at the head of that mysterious column wherein JULIA is implored to explain all to disconsolate FREDERICK, and THE DOOR MAT (we are assured) will not be visible to-day—are these words assaulting the reader's eye, "A BIT OF MY MIND, APRIL 26." The appearance of *Punch* solves the mystery. A new series is this week commenced, in which AMELIA MOUSER, bursting with irrepressible confidence—the goading *estrus* of female eloquence—intends to give weekly "bits of her mind." The first number promises. The peculiar style of

DOUGLAS JERROLD in its happiest moments reveals the authorship; and we may hope for another Mrs. CANDLE. People were beginning to grumble so loudly at *Punch* of late that this new series and the series of "Prosings" commenced last week by the matchless TITMARSH, have come most timely to the rescue; may all such grumblings ever receive such responses!

We last week spoke of the great elevation in tone and ability which of late has characterized the Public Press. It has indeed become the *Fourth Estate*, and has found an admirable historian in MR. KNIGHT HUNT, whose work on the subject excites attention not only for its amusing piquancy but for the views it opens. MR. HUNT is himself a practised journalist, and has all the professional knowledge necessary to give such a work a definite purpose, while at the same time he has the large and liberal views and abundant information without which such a work would necessarily be a mere sketch.

These are the only topics we have heard discussed this week. Of course people continue reading, but they do not seem to be greatly impressed with what they read, for it does not follow them from the library into the busy world, there reappearing in fragmentary conversation. A German moving amidst our drawing-rooms, and observing how little Literature occupies the conversation even of cultivated men, and how much more they talk of the Great Exhibition of Industry of 1851, might imagine we really were a nation of shopkeepers; which assuredly we are not. Apropos of this exhibition, there is an American speculation worth noticing, as indicative of the vast results believed to be womb'd within that assemblage of man's ingenuity and labour: the speculation is nothing less than the purchase of the whole Exhibition, after England has seen it, and the transportation of the articles to America, there to form a sort of Museum of Industry. Several American gentlemen of wealth and energy have already been mentioned to us as concerned in this speculation.

Almost the only hopeful announcement we have seen is that of a new book by FRANCIS NEWMAN. It is to be confessions of psychological experience—the biography of a believing, struggling, advancing mind. *Phases of Faith, or the History of my own Creed* is a title in itself full of promise. Any earnest man recording the various phases of his religious convictions would be welcome; but a man of MR. NEWMAN'S sincerity, piety, and elevated intellect confers a benefit on the world in narrating his experience.

German literature presents a deplorable aspect of poverty and unhealthiness. Politics—and what politics!—invade the fair domain of Literature and Art; and if a non-political work appear it is mostly of some despicable character. There is at this moment a novel rejoicing in the success of a "scandal," which, pretending to be philosophical, is simply prurient and infamous. We will not name the work; that would be only to set hundreds in quest of it. For it is a serious imputation upon our tastes and morals that no praise will sell an edition so rapidly as the stigma of immorality. Call a book dangerous, prurient, revolting, and you sell it. An impudent French publisher once acted on this well-known fact, and placarded the walls with the title of a new work, adding, in the emphasis of elephant letters, "*Roman immoral!*"—immoral romance. And when some years ago a Quarterly Reviewer, in an ever-infamous article, flung the dirt of his own imagination upon all French literature, and represented it as the hotbed of iniquity, he produced such a demand for French plays and novels that booksellers have from that time been eagerly expecting, as a harvest, another attack. We will not, therefore, name the work to which we allude, but content ourselves with saying that such a work exists, and has admirers. A tendency *downwards* has been very visible of late in German literature; the philosophers have been reasoning themselves into a nebulous sort of Atheism; the novelists have been seeking stimulus in dirt, scandal, and personality.

On our table lie scattered a number of comic periodicals; they are as wearisome as the rest. Really that old joke of the German leaping over tables and saying that he thus learnt to be lively, forces itself upon us whenever we see the clumsy heavy movements of Teutonic facetiousness. Reader, did you ever meet a *lustige kerl*—or as we should say a *wag*? If not go and see the Rhinoceros gamboling in the mud at the Zoological Gardens, and you will have an approximate idea of the grace and lightness with which his German

mind moves through the airy regions of wit, satire, and fun. Here is *Der Anekdotenjäger*, a journal for "facetious Germany," and so successful that *das lustige Deutschland* has given it a broad grin of approva for six years. The dead march in Saul may be a mirth-provoking composition after this! Then there is the *Leipziger Charivari*—a weekly instalment of sixteen pages of facetiousness, to which the editor now magnanimously promises to devote "all his time and talents": the excellent Dogberry threatens their worships with all his tediousness—and fulfills his threat! *Die fliegende Blätter*, published at Munich, is more like our *Puach*; and though not startling in its wit has at least the merit of tolerable illustrations. The very best joke we have met with in these funny journals is appended to one of the illustrations, and is called the Good Samaritan. A village schoolmaster is haranguing his boys in bland and moral strains. "Now boys, you have all heard the story of the Good Samaritan. Johnny, what would you do now if you were to find a man lying on the ground, covered with wounds?" Johnny supports his chin with his thumb, and in perfect stupidity meditates this answer, "I'd finish him! (*Vollt thutd macha*.)"

Of serious works we can mention but two, COUNT FICQUELMONT's *Aufklärungen über die Zeit* (the name of the author will be enough to call attention to it) and the minister BEKK'S *Bewegung in Baden 1848-9*, which to those not already wearied with the Baden revolution contains matter of interest.

Spain has long ceased to have a national literature. It lives upon imitations and translations from the French. We were, therefore, not surprised to hear that *Le Comte Hermann* of DUMAS has just been produced in Madrid with great success; nor that CHENU has been translated for the benefit of the reactionary party there. But the book of books just now is a social novel—imitated from the French of course—called *Ricch and Poor* (*Pobres y Ricos, o la Bruja de Madrid*) by AYGUALS DE IZCO. Four thousand copies of this novel have been sold, which in Spain is equal to twenty thousand in France. It is, in fact, a Spanish *Mystères*, and is employing the ingenuity of illustrators as EUGENE SUE's works employed it. In another shape the same topic is handled by EL CURIOSO PARLANTE (the *nom de guerre* of DON MESONERO ROMANOS) under the title of *Scenes of Madrid Life (Escenas Matritenses)*, which, as the production of one thoroughly conversant with Madrid life under all aspects is of rare interest to the foreigner. This book also has produced a "sensation"; but although national in its material nothing can be less Spanish in its form. Another work by DON SERAFIN CALDERON is also mentioned as forthcoming. Mr. TICKNOR has yet long and not uninteresting chapter to write for his *History of Spanish Literature*, wherein he could give us a succinct account of the *modern* writers so strangely omitted by him. Apropos of modern writers, as literary intelligence on Spanish matters is so exceedingly difficult to be obtained, it may be worth stating here, for the benefit of our Castilian scholars, that the works of the best of the modern dramatists, HARTZEMBUSCH, have been collected into one volume by DON OCHOA, and published in the Paris edition of Spanish writers.

SYDNEY SMITH'S MORAL PHILOSOPHY.

Sketches of Moral Philosophy delivered at the Royal Institution in the years 1804, 5, and 6. By the late Rev. Sydney Smith, M.A. Longman and Co.

This book is so modest in its pretensions that it would be pedantry to insist very closely on its shortcomings; on the other hand it is in many respects so charming, and bears so admired a name on its title-page, that we should mislead our readers if we did not qualify the praise we feel bound to bestow on it, by a distinct expression of our disappointment at its deficiencies. Perhaps no one ever expected a profound or novel exposition of psychology from Sydney Smith; but we had a right to expect, and did expect, a more thorough mastery of what was already known with something like an indication of original thought, and by original thought we do not mean novel thoughts, we mean that the ideas although discovered by others should have also been discovered by him. It is in all senses of the word a superficial book. Scanty knowledge, and the absence of speculative power do not make a popular lecturer, although the necessity of being "popular" is everywhere assumed as the excuse for not being profound. We

feel very certain that had Sydney Smith been addressing a graver audience he would have added no solidity to his discourses, simply because he was not sufficiently master of the subject to do so. When Faraday addresses popular audiences he never betrays ignorance, he merely keeps to himself such considerations and such demonstrations as the audience may be supposed incapable of appreciating. Any experienced auditor can judge whether Faraday is master of his subject or not; and so will any experienced student in philosophy detect, by a hundred significant trifles, that Sydney Smith is but himself a pupil of the science he professes to teach.

Having discharged our critical consciences on this score, and warned our readers not to look for metaphysics in this charming volume, we proceed to render a slight account of its contents. The opening lecture is a defence of the study: it is full of pleasantries, but of slender tissue. When he says "Bishop Berkeley destroyed this world in one volume octavo," the pleasure is so irresistible that we almost forget its profound misconception of Berkeley, who did not deny the evidence of his senses, who did not deny the existence of the streets into which he walked. As a wit Sydney Smith is justified in leaving Berkeley unread; but as a lecturer?

The two succeeding lectures give an historical survey of Moral Philosophy: a school girl would have done it better, could she have given the exquisite style and the pleasantry which make it, meagre as it is, delightful to read. What does the reader think of this, as a bit of history?—

"Socrates was, in truth, not very fond of subtle and refined speculations; and upon the intellectual part of our nature, little or nothing of his opinions is recorded. If we may infer anything from the clearness and simplicity of his opinions on moral subjects, and from the bent which his genius had received for the useful and the practical, he would certainly have laid a strong foundation for rational metaphysics. The slight sketch I have given of his moral doctrines contains nothing very new or very brilliant, but comprehends those moral doctrines which every person of education has been accustomed to hear from his childhood; but two thousand years ago they were great discoveries,—two thousand years since common sense was not invented. If Orpheus, or Linus, or any of those melodious moralists, sung in bad verses, such advice as a grandmother would now give to a child of six years old, he was thought to be inspired by the gods, and statues and altars were erected to his memory. In Hesiod there is a very grave exhortation to mankind to wash their faces: and I have discovered a very strong analogy between the precepts of Pythagoras and Mrs. Trimmer;—both think that a son ought to obey his father, and both are clear that a good man is better than a bad one. Therefore, to measure aright this extraordinary man, we must remember the period at which he lived; that he was the first who called the attention of mankind from the pernicious subtleties which engaged and perplexed their wandering understandings to the practical rules of life;—he was the great father and inventor of common sense, as Ceres was of the plough, and Bacchus of intoxication."

We quote this because an admiring critic has given it his approbation. Comment would be misplaced. He then enters upon his subject considering first the Intellectual Faculties and secondly the Moral Powers. Briefly of course, and yet not so briefly as to interfere with the exposition of leading principles. The lectures on Wit and Humour, on Taste, on the Sublime and Beautiful, on the Faculties of Beasts, and on the Conduct of the Understanding, are as ample as one could desire.

It is doubtless a grave defect in a work when it leaves no distinct impression behind it save that of the charm with which its style invested it; and such a defect has the present volume; but yet so great is the charm that we could for ever be reading such books, as young ladies read novels! There is a lambent fire playing through it; a genial humour and felicity of phrase such as Sydney Smith always brightened the dullest topic with; a diction so easy, graceful, idiomatic, and perspicuous, as to fill critics with admiration, and writers with mitigated despair; an eloquence never dragged in, but always the natural exaltation of the tone with the exaltation of the subject, the grander chords and solemn harmonies breaking forth as solemn exponents of deeper feelings, and not the rhetorician's trick of display. Here is one example, among many, on the love of knowledge:—

"Some men may be disposed to ask, 'Why conduct my understanding with such endless care? and what is the use of so much knowledge?' What is the use of so much knowledge?—what is the use of so much life?—what are we to do with the seventy years of existence allotted to us?—and how are we to live them out to the last? I solemnly declare that, but for the love of knowledge, I should consider the life of the meanest hedgehog ditcher as preferable to that of the greatest and

richest man here present: for the fire of our minds is like the fire which the Persians burn in the mountains,—it flames night and day, and is immortal, and not to be quenched! Upon something it must act and feed,—upon the pure spirit of knowledge, or upon the foul dregs of polluting passions. Therefore, when I say, in conducting your understanding, love knowledge with a great love, with a vehement love, with a love coeval with life, what do I say, but love innocence,—love virtue, love purity of conduct,—love that which, if you are rich and great, will sanctify the blind fortune which has made you so, and make men call it justice,—love that which, if you are poor, will render your poverty respectable, and make the proudest feel it unjust to laugh at the meanness of your fortunes,—love that which will comfort you, adorn you, and never quit you,—which will open to you the kingdom of thought, and all the boundless regions of conception, as an asylum against the cruelty, the injustice, and the pain that may be your lot in the outer world,—that which will make your motives habitually great and honourable, and light up in an instant a thousand noble disdain at the very thought of meanness and of fraud!"

And here is a fragment of his description of the sublime, worth quoting for the music of its march:—

"It is a feeling of pleasure, but of exalted tremulous pleasure, bordering on the very confines of pain; and driving before it every calm thought, and every regulated feeling. It is the feeling which men experience when they behold marvellous scenes of nature; or when they see great actions performed. Such feelings as come on the top of exceeding high mountains; or the hour before a battle; or when when a man of great power, and of an unyielding spirit, is pleading before some august tribunal against the accusations of his enemies. These are the hours of sublimity, when all low and little passions are swallowed up by an overwhelming feeling; when the mind towers and springs above its common limits, breaks out into larger dimensions, and swells into a nobler and grander nature."

It is not easy to convey an idea of the attractiveness of this volume unless we compare it to the charm of personal influence. There are men to whom the erudite and informing conversation of "strong-minded women" has but mediocre attraction; yet they can listen for hours to some less "instructive," but more genial woman, though she talk of matters which no treatment could render of any intense importance, and her observations on them throw no new light upon society in general. Just what such a woman is compared with her informing rival, is Sydney Smith's volume compared with treatises on metaphysics. A kind, genial, human nature smiles in its pages; a cultivated intellect, conversant rather with men than with books, irradiates it with beautiful illustrations both of fancy and of wit; and collaterally many wise remarks and excellent sentiments are brought forward, which give a real value to the book.

As may be expected, it is in the practical rather than in the speculative part that he is strongest. His observations on the passions are observations, though rarely extending so deep as the causes. Thus what he says of grief seems to us very imperfect as an analysis:—

"A singular circumstance respecting grief, is, that there is not always, in the suffering person, a very ready disposition to get rid of his sorrow: he clings to the remembrance of it; gathers round about him everything which can recall the idea of what he has lost; and appears to derive his principal consolation from those trains of ideas which an indifferent person would consider as best calculated to exasperate his affliction. The reason of this, I take to be, that it is pleasant to be pitied, pleasant even to think how we should be pitied if the world were well acquainted with all the minute circumstance of our loss,—with all the fine ties and endearments which bound us to the object of our affections. We are fond of representing ourselves to our own fancies as objects of the most profound and universal sympathy. Death never took away such a father, such a husband, or such a son; we dwell upon our misfortunes, and magnify them, till we derive a sort of consolation from reflecting on that exquisite pity to which we are entitled, and which we should receive if the whole extent of our calamity were as well known to others as to ourselves."

He here overlooks two determining causes, one direct and the other derivative, namely, the organic affection of the brain itself, and the delight we feel in sensation merely as sensation. Grief has a tendency to perpetuate itself, not only from the tendency of all intense emotions to recur and to become permanent—"fixed ideas"—but also because all strong emotion is in itself desirable. We love danger, in youth, for danger's sake—or rather, to speak more accurately, for the sake of the excitement, the emotion which danger communicates. We delight in the pain of tragedy, though it wrings from us sobs and tears; we delight in the pain of music, though it makes every nerve quiver. Not as pain, of course, but as intense sensation. So greedy are we of sensation that we welcome pain rather than be without emotion. A wearied citizen, wasting from ennui,

confessed to a friend that the happiest month in the year was the month in which his fit of the gout came on; not, of course, because gout pains were in themselves desirable—but any form of intense life was preferable to stagnation. This is the real meaning of the *luxury of grief*, hence the wise advice of Jean Paul—"The first thing to be conquered in grief is the pleasure we feel in indulging in it." Moreover, the very grief itself is the mental realization of the very object whose loss is deplored—the strongest idea of that object which we are at the moment capable of entertaining; hence the pain is a sort of inverse substitute for that prized object, and to it we transfer some of the clinging affection which is thwarted in respect of its original.

In conclusion we will say, that if this volume has not in any way deepened our knowledge of the subject, it has deepened the feeling—almost amounting to love—with which Sydney Smith's writings have inspired us for his wise and playful, generous and humane nature.

BROWNING'S NEW POEM.

Christmas Eve and Easter Day. A Poem by Robert Browning. Chapman and Hall.

ROBERT BROWNING has one inestimable quality—originality. Whatever other qualities he may want, this one cannot be denied him. He is not simply an original poet, but perhaps the only original poet of the day; for Tennyson, though far more richly endowed in faculties, is obviously a product of Keats, Shelley, and Wordsworth. Browning sees for himself, thinks for himself, speaks for himself. You may quarrel with his manner, but you cannot say it belongs to another; it is *his*, every line of it. If you accept it you will probably delight in it, and place the poet on an exalted pedestal. Accordingly Browning's admirers are "fit" and *not* "few"; they swear by their master with an enthusiasm pleasant to witness, and not insignificant as a tribute to his power.

But with full recognition of what is excellent in Browning's poetry we are prevented from sharing all that enthusiasm by the serious deficiencies we note in it. Our space admits of no detailed estimate of his genius; we cannot pause to enumerate the various grounds on which we take our stand; they may all be summed up in one sentence: he is not a Singer. That which distinguishes Poetry from Verse—that music, not of language only but of thought, which constitutes the grand peculiarity and enduring delight of poetry, forms but an insignificant element in his writings. With a command over language, and powers of easy movement in the fetters of rhyme greater than in almost any writer of the day, his poems want the one redeeming grace, the one perfection of art which no teaching can give: his verse is not "full-sailed," borne onwards by the current of impetuous sound, formed out of strange velocities of thought intermingling with emotion, and raising in the hearer a like mysterious agitation. We might turn the objection into another shape, and say that in Browning's poems we miss the element of Beauty.

It will be seen that we make a serious objection. Let us add that we are testing him severely, and according to a high standard. That is right, for his aims are high. Measure him by the standard of his contemporaries, or that of many whose names in days gone by have had resounding echoes, and he will seem a man of gigantic thews and sinews. Every thing he writes is worthy of attention—he has written nothing more worthy of it than *Christmas Eve*. It is a great theme powerfully conceived, picturesquely, sometimes grotesquely handled. In distinctness of purpose, pregnancy of meaning, and power of illustration it shows the masterhand.

The poet is standing in the door-way of a Methodist Chapel, while the rain is drenching the desolate common; and as he stands there the strange congregation glare at him before entering:—

" Well, from the road, the lanes, or the common,
In came the flock: the fat weary woman,
Panting and bewildered, down-clapping
Her umbrella with a mighty report,
Grounded it by me, wry and flapping,
A wreck of whalebones."

You must not be disconcerted with the rough realism of this poem, and complain of the tone being unsuitable to the gravity of the subject; with a keen eye for the truth Browning never idealizes: this is at once the source of his strength and of his weakness.

The fat weary woman is thus followed:—

" Prompt in the wake of her, up-pattered
On broken clogs, the many-tattered
Little old-faced, peaking sister-turned-mother
Of the sickly babe she tried to smother
Somehow up, with its spotted face,
From the cold, on her breast, the one warm place;
She too must stop, wring the poor suds dry
Of a draggled shawl, and add thereto
Her tribute to the door-mat, sopping.
Already from my own clothes' dropping,
Which yet she seemed to grudge I should stand on;
Then stooping down to take off her pattens,
She bore them defiantly, in each hand one,
Planted together before her breast.
And its babe, as good as a lance in rest.
Close on her heels, the dingy satins
Of a female something, past me flitted,
With lips as much too white, as a streak
Lay far too red on each hollow cheek;
And it seemed the very door-hinge pitted
All that was left of a woman once,
Holding at least its tongue for the nonce.
* * * * *And, when the door's cry drowned their wonder,
The draught, it always went in shutting,
Made the flame of the single tallow candle
In the cracked square lantern I stood under,
Shoot its blue lip at me, rebuffing
As it were, the luckless cause of scandal:
I verily thought the zealous light
(In the chapel's secret, too!) for spite,
Would shudder itself clean off the wick,
With the air of a St. John's Candlestick."

Shamed by the reproachful looks of the faithful, and by the "zealous light," he resolves to enter the chapel:—

" Accordingly, as a shoemaker's lad
With wizened face in want of soap,
And wet apron wound round his waist like a rope,
After stopping outside, for his cough was bad,
To get the fit over, poor gentle creature,
And so avoid disturbing the preacher.
Passed in, I sent my elbow spikewise
At the shutting door, and entered likewise,
Received the barge's accustomed greeting,
Crossed the three-fold's magic pentacle,
And found myself in full conventicle."

Admirable is the description of the interior of Zion Chapel, and the preacher who there "deals damnation round" while "the old fat woman purrs with pleasure," and of the droning sermon which sent the poet to sleep. In that sleep he dreams that he is once more out in the open air, beneath the sky, subject to all the influences of nature, and he also dreams that there he meets the Saviour:—

" All at once I looked up with terror.
He was there.
He Himself with His human air,
On the narrow pathway just before:
I saw the back of Him, no more—
He had left the chapel, then, as I.
I forgot all about the sky.
No face: only the sight
Of a sweepy Garment, vast and white,
With a hem that I could recognise.
I felt terror, no surprise:
My mind filled with the catafalque,
At one bound, of the mighty fact.
I remembered, He did say
Doubtless, that, to this world's end,
Where two or three should meet and pray,
He would be in their midst, their Friend:
Certainly He was there with them.
And my pulses leaped for joy
Of the golden thought without alloy,
That I saw His very Vesture's hem."

Holding by the sacred Garment he is wafted to Rome, and at St. Peter's witnesses the Catholic celebration of Christmas Eve. The plan of this is striking. No contrast could be finer than that of squalid Methodism and gorgeous Romanism; but Browning, whose observant eye sees the one vividly enough, fails to do adequate justice to the other. The pomp, and splendour, and sensuous grandeur of Catholicism are indicated rather than painted. Having witnessed the two antipodes of worship, he next is carried to the centre of Scepticism. From Roman forms he passes to the inquisitor of all forms—he is at Göttingen listening to a mythical interpretation of Christianity by a "hawknosed high-cheekboned professor":—

" I felt at once as if there ran
A shoot of love from my heart to the man—
That sallow, virgin-minded, studious
Martyr to mild enthusiasm,
As he uttered a kind of cough-preludious
That woke my sympathetic spasms,
(Beside some spitting that made me sorry)
And stood, surveying his auditory
With a wan pure look, wellnigh celestial
—Those blue eyes had survived so much!
While under the foot they could not smutch,
Lay all the fleshly and the bestial.
Over he bowed, and arranged his notes,
Till the auditory's clearing of throats
Was done with, died into a silence;
And, when each glance was upward sent,
Each bearded mouth composed intent,
And a pin might be heard drop half a mile hence—
He pushed back higher his spectacles,
Let the eyes stream out like lamps from cells,
And giving his head of hair—a hake
Of undressed tow, for colour and quantity—
One rapid and impatient shake,
(As our own young England adjusts a jaunty tie
When about to impart, on mature digestion,
Some thrilling view of the surplus-question)
—The Professor's grave voice, sweet though hoarse,
Broke into his Christmas-Eve's discourse."

We cannot quote the lecture, but it is not a very

unfair version of the mythic doctrine. Truly enough does he say:—

" Unlearned love was safe from spurning—
Can't we respect your loveless learning?
Let us at least give learning honour!
What laurels had we showered upon her,
Girding her loins up to pertinacity?
Our theory of the Middle Verb;
Or Turklike brandishing a scimitar;
Per anapæst in comic measure;
Or curing the halt and maimed Liketides;
While we lounge on at our indebtèd ease:
Instead of which, a tricky demon
Sets her at Titus or Philemon!
When Ignorance wears his ears of leather
And hates God's word, 'tis altogether;
Nor leaves he his congenial thirsties;
To go and browse on Paul's Epistles."

But he prefers the errors of Romanism or Methodism to those of Hegelianism:—

" Truth's atmosphere may grow mephitic
When Papist struggles with Dissenter,
Impregnating its pristine clarity,
—One, by his daily fare's vulgarity
Its gust of broken meat and garlic;
—One, by his soul's too-much presuming,
To turn the frankincense's fuming
And vapours of the candle starlike
Into the cloud her wings she buoyes on:
And each, that sets the pure air seething,
Poisoning it for healthy breathing—
But the critic leaves no air to poison;
Pumps out by a ruthless loguteny
Atom by atom and leaves you—vacuity.
Thus much of Christ, does he reject?
And what retain? His intellect?
What is it I must reverence only?
Poor intellect for worship, truly.
Which tells me simply what was told
(If mere morality, bereft
Elsewhere by voices manifold."

He awakes in the little chapel again, taught some lessons by his dream; and the substance of what he has learned is given in the second poem—or division of the poem called *Easter-day*—wherein, after setting forth the difficulties which beset the mind desirous of becoming truly Christian, he concludes by the orthodox-heterodoxy—or heterodox-orthodoxy, which ever you please—that Christianity is Love.

On the theology of the poem we should have much to say did we me place serve; meanwhile we need only applaud in passing the sincere and earnest spirit which breathes through it. The sincerity of it will to many look like levity. Already we have heard strange objections to the "tone," as not elevated enough. Do these critics imagine that an "elevated" tone is difficult? Do they suppose that Browning could not have adopted it, had he thought fit? But he did not think fit. Instead of imitating Milton he spoke as Robert Browning; his keen sense of the ludicrous and grotesque fading into the background whenever the presence of more solemn themes overshadowed it. In the bold and artful mingling of the ludicrous with the intensely serious he reminds us of Carlyle. His style is swayed by the subject. It is a garment, not a mould; it takes the varying shapes of varied movement, and does not force its one monotony on all.

As a page out of the history of a life, the poetic confession of a troubled soul, *Christmas Eve* has a significance and a value peculiarly its own. We have read it three times, and with increasing admiration. What it wants to make it an enduring work of art is that which the author cannot give it, has not to give—the magic and the mystery of Beauty. But of its kind it is really great. The luxury of rhyme—the marvellous facility playing with difficulties as an Indian juggler plays with balls, every one will have noticed. Since Butler no English poet has exhibited the same daring propensity and facility in rhyming. If the verse is sometimes rugged it is but the better exponent of the thought. Realism in Art has Truth as an aim, Ugliness as a pitfall.

HISTORIANS OF THE REVOLUTION OF 1848.

1. *Pages d'histoire de la Révolution de Février, 1848.* Par Louis Blanc. W. Jeffs.
2. *Histoire de la Révolution de Février, 1848.* Par Daniel Stern. Dulau and Co.

NOTHING is more frequently observed than the obstinacy with which people cling to an error, how explicit soever the refutation. It is to this inertia of the mind, rather than to malevolence, that we are disposed to attribute the singular iteration of the charge against Louis Blanc of having originated the *ateliers nationaux*, after such a charge has been rebutted in every possible shape. Newspapers and reviews, both in France and England, repeat and repeat it as if it were an understood and accepted truth. It is a ludicrous misapprehension where it is not a ruthless artifice. The *Ateliers*, so far from being organized by Louis Blanc, were organized to counteract his influence, and thwart his efforts. No point is so

demonstrable in the whole of the Revolution as that. It is avowed by those who planned the Ateliers, and repeatedly stated by Emile Thomas himself, and as he had the direction of them surely he is a competent authority in such a case. Yet these Ateliers organized in a spirit hostile to Louis Blanc have become identified with his name that he bears the infamy of the June insurrection in consequence.

An ample and explicit statement of this case is to be found in the work before us. Unhappily little more than that is to be found there; and if any reader opens it with a view of being instructed in the history of the Revolution he will be grievously disappointed. M. Louis Blanc is of course at liberty to choose his own subject, yet we cannot but think his aim would have been better attained had he given us a narrative of events in his coloured style, instead of the present passionate vindication of himself. To speak frankly, this vindication has not increased our admiration of him. Its statements are sufficiently decisive to have stood upon their own authority without calling to their aid the vehement diatribes and universal execrations which are meant to prove that there was no honesty and good faith in any one. Want of generosity, so conspicuous as in this volume, implies—to use the mildest interpretation—a want of that intellectual honesty which forms the first and indispensable condition of a true writer. We have little faith in those vehement apostles who have no faith in others. If anything could make us doubt M. Louis Blanc's integrity it is the doubt he always throws on the integrity of others, coupled with such assertions of his own. "Oui, les malhonnêtes gens," he exclaims, "c'étaient bien là mes adversaires," and the whole book is but an eloquent variation of this theme: "I am opposed only by scoundrels, whoever refuses to accept my views, refuses from selfishness or from hatred against me." Since Rousseau we have seen no one so convinced that the whole world was conspiring against him. His only defensor is the People—a vague abstraction about which eloquent periods may be turned.

This is not the spirit in which to write history, nor in fact to write anything worth reading. In Lamartine's History of the Revolution, people were disagreeably affected by the tone of universal praise which, by being extended to men of all parties and all capacities, became absolutely null. It was a fault, yet a fault on the right side. It is pernicious to sit in judgment on the motives of men, yet he will be nearer the truth by infinite degrees who believes all men honest, than he who believes no man honest but himself. Lamartine, with a poet's sympathy, could understand diversities of belief, and respect the motive while condemning the doctrine. But Louis Blanc really seems to admit no variety in creed, and even those who share his own views extort from him no genuine enthusiasm. Lamartine was the hero of his own book; here was something grandiose and naive at the same time in the way he sculptured his own statue, for which a magnificent revolution was the pedestal; he painted as giants those upon whose shoulders he was raised; the greater they were the greater he who looked down upon them. Louis Blanc is equally the hero of his book; but instead of raising himself by raising others, he towers above them by lowering them to the mud. A word of praise scattered here and there, is like Falstaff's half-pennyworth of bread beside the enormity of his bill for sack. If M. Louis Blanc really and truly believes that he is hated by all who oppose his doctrines, we beg to suggest that the cause lies in his own want of trust in others. That he has enemies we know; that there are men who would not scruple to send him to the galleys for his opinions, we are disposed to admit, but does not this arise from the very fault we blame in him, namely, the unwillingness to believe that others are sincere? And of those who are not personally his enemies, but who oppose his views, does he not think they hate him because he hates them? If he trusted in their integrity would he not believe they trusted in his?

To us it seems that Louis Blanc's enemies are the product of his own intemperate style. However one might criticise his doctrines as impracticable or even dangerous, yet had he stood calmly and manfully defending them he would have extorted sympathy and respect even from his antagonists. But he threw about vehement accusations of egotism and heartless spoliation, and roused the passions of his antagonists. Sowing the wind he reaped the whirlwind. His

exile is his own fault. He acted like a bold, like a wise, like an honest man, when he insisted on putting his ideas into practice as soon as he came into power. True or false those ideas were his, and he would have been false to his own soul had he hesitated to use his utmost in realizing them because others saw their "danger." But much as we admire him in that respect, we as distinctly condemn his perpetual excitation of the passions of men by his intemperate polemics, and by his reckless, foolish, nay almost monstrous system of attributing bad motives to opponents. With remarkable powers of style he has latterly always written as if in a fever. Yet any critic—merely as a critic—would tell him that rant is not eloquence, and that he has impaired even the finer notes of his voice by the continued vehemence of his declamation.

Daniel Stern's *Histoire de la Révolution* has the merit of being a narrative of events, and not the pedestal on which he raises himself. It is the only book on the subject which has yet appeared in which the writer was not more or less the hero of the revolution. Amidst great inexactitude of statements and somewhat too rash a style of generalizing, there are excellent pages in this book animated by real convictions. Daniel Stern is a Socialist blue-stocking; and though belonging to one of the most ancient families of Brittany, her democratic tendencies are no new result of events, for some years she has been at war with the patrician class to which she belongs. We mention this because it may give a piquancy to the perusal of her work to know that its terrible onslaughts upon the old regime proceed from a patrician. Were it our cue to raise the very transparent mask we might perhaps add to the piquancy; but the book is really interesting enough, without needing a biographical explanation.

NOTES AND EXTRACTS.

THE TOILING MILLIONS AND THE DEBT.—If we imagine that in 1815 a monomania had seized the whole English nation; that they had, as far as possible, destroyed by the pickaxe or by blasting, by flood and fire, all the fixed or elaborate capital in Great Britain, leaving only food for one year, and the rudest tools and aids known to semi-barbarous times; and had at the same time destroyed the debt, but preserved political harmony,—it is, at least, a tenable opinion that the country would in consequence already be richer than it has actually become, and yet have no debt. For five years there would have been great private and public poverty; before ten years there would have been high and rapidly advancing prosperity; and, by 1830, the country would have been competent to commence the railway system, as she actually did. In the last twenty years, with the same taxation, and the same avishness, the Exchequer would have had twenty-six millions yearly to spare on reconstructing and beautifying all that had been overthrown. Thus there appears not a shadow of argument on the side which alleges that our working millions are the better for the property bequeathed with the debt.—*Newman on the Constitutional and Moral Right or Wrong of our National Debt.*

THE GERMAN BABEL.—There is in a Church in Silesia a painting of the building of Babel. The builders are in the utmost confusion. From a window in the calm sky above them God looks smilingly. Under the picture is this inscription: "From a window in heaven looks the Lord, and says—gentlemen, nothing will come of that." A Polish paper advises the Germans to remove this picture to the Augustine church, in which the Erfurt Parliament is planning the new German unity.

THE DIVISIONS IN THE CHURCH.—The Anglican talks in high strain of the Catholic consent, as if he were not contradicted by the Bible-Society preacher in the next parish church. The Evangelical glorifies the Lutheran reformation, which his Tractarian neighbour denounces as an apostacy; and the communion, to which they both have taken vows, is praised by the one as the great ally, by the other as the appointed barrier, to the Protestantism of Europe. Both parties affect to be ignorant that the Church of England is the product of compromise, and, in its scheme of doctrine and usage, has been voted into its form of existence by the accidents of party and the confused action and reaction of opinion. They pretend that it is constructed around an "Idea": as well might you look for such a thing in a parliamentary resolution framed to catch votes. It is a dangerous employment to hunt for theories in a system of pacified discrepancies; for, while such theories are sure to be mutually destructive, each necessarily insists on having the whole system to itself, and will let no lodgings under the same roof to its contradictory. Hence, differences, wide as those which rent Christendom asunder in the sixteenth century, co-exist in the national Church; but co-exist only till one class is strong enough to expel the other, or the nation provoked enough to silence both.—*Westminster Review for April.*

ENGLAND IN 1850.—Epochs sometimes occur, in the course of the existence of a nation, at which the ancient customs of a people are changed, public morality destroyed, religious belief disturbed, and the spell of tradition broken, whilst the diffusion of knowledge is yet imperfect, and the civil rights of the community are ill secured, or confined within very narrow limits. The country then assumes a dim and dubious shape in the

eyes of the citizens; they no longer behold it in the soil which they inhabit, for that soil is to them a dull insatiate clod; nor in the usages of their forefathers, which they have been taught to look upon as a debasing yoke; nor in religion, for of that they doubt; nor in the laws, which do not originate in their own authority; nor in the legislator, whom they fear and despise. The country is lost to their senses, they can neither discover it under its own nor under borrowed features, and they intrench themselves within the dull precincts of a narrow egotism. They are emancipated from prejudice, without having acknowledged the empire of reason; they are neither animated by the instinctive patriotism of monarchical subjects, nor by the thinking patriotism of republican citizens; but they have stopped half-way between the two, in the midst of confusion and of distress. In this predicament, to retreat is impossible; for a people cannot restore the vivacity of its earlier times, any more than a man can return to the innocence and the bloom of childhood: such things may be regretted, but they cannot be renewed. The only thing, then, which remains to be done is to proceed, and to accelerate the union of private with public interests, since the period of disinterested patriotism is gone by for ever.—*De Tocqueville.*

BENEVOLENCE AND SELFISHNESS.—Some value their fellow-creatures by what they can get out of them, others value them for themselves. And that is the difference between benevolence and selfishness. Of course, there are various shades of intensity in each of these varieties. Some use their human tools in a rougher and harsher manner than others, some use them, indeed, so pleasantly, that they are hardly felt to be using them at all; and amongst those to whom the happiness of others is the material of their own happiness, some waste this material quite unintentionally, and make such blunders in management that they produce discomfort where they mean to produce happiness. Then, again, some there are who have one person whose happiness is to them the material of their own, whilst all the rest of the world are but to them as instruments, and thus benevolence and selfishness mingle in the same character.—*Compton Mervile.*

Progress of Science.

POSITION OF SCIENCE.

We frequently hear the lament that there are now no great men. We hear of no man to whom we look up to as an authority, few men who can even call themselves leader of a party. There were times when an opinion spoken by a great man would be taken as a point of departure, as a datum line for a calculation, as a basis for a great superstructure: this has ceased to be. No authority can now be quoted unless something more than a mere opinion be given; the reasoning must be known, and the opinion must be so digested as to become our own opinion before we can believe. We have authorities for facts; but even these we must compare with other facts, with the facts as observed by other men, before we can receive them, and they must bear internal evidence of truth, they must show themselves to be consistent with the universal order of things, or the testimony of eyewitnesses themselves will be very guardedly used. The authority of individuals has had its time; it has arisen wherever a man has shown himself to be more gifted than his fellow-men, when he has shown that, however he got his wisdom or his knowledge, he has been right when others have been wrong; or when others have not seen the way he has had power to show a way which his fellows have recognised as the right one. In all these cases authority has arisen from individual greatness of mind, and men have been led right or wrong by the power of the individual. It is long before we can put down an authority whatever the mode of its rise may have been; and the familiar illustration drawn from the schoolmen who quoted their great teachers as we now quote the well-known laws of nature, has its parallel in all countries and in all times. Men scarcely know why they obey the usual laws, many of them the same in all countries; each nation has derived them from a different source; some have looked to their lawgivers, some to their heroes or divinities, and the great necessities of man's nature have made themselves known by various methods, forming themselves into laws by the most wonderful and numerous devices. In cases where the power of the individual has been great, he has been found to be a man in whom the lessons he has given have existed as firm and exalted instincts, to which those who have been inferior have leaned; and the instincts of man have guided him where his reason has not seen the way. This individual authority wielded by hands neither good nor wise, by rights which accident has devolved on them, has been the cause of many complainings in society, and of much dissatisfaction among thinking men. The want has always been to find a guide from whose path we shall have no wish to deviate, a

judge from whose decision we shall desire no appeal. The students of Physics claim for themselves first to have found out such a guide, first to have found a code of laws which all must obey, which neither time nor circumstance shall cause us to alter.

Like all other laws, the laws of nature were changed, at least in books, according to the will of the student or writer, and according to his ideas of rectitude; and the making of worlds was as common as the passing of Parliamentary bills. Gradually, however, we have seen a change; societies were framed, and the laws of nature which had been discovered were written down, and stood as an authority which no man dared contradict. Gradually one portion after another of the world was examined, and law after law written down; and those who sneered or set up opposing laws were simply referred to the great lawgiver of nature; and, however unwilling, they became silent and obedient. Like a new oracle set up in Greece, which, becoming famous, was the fashion for a time, Science has become a general oracle for consultation, and differs only in not losing its capacity for truth. We can do nothing now by opinion: when we wish to make a railway, we do not ask merely that the enquirer should examine; even then, if he gives his opinion, we ask him why? If a plague comes, we do not ask the physician if it can be cured; we ask thousands of physicians, and the testimony of men over all the globe is collected before an opinion can be ventured on. The great individual has ceased to be, the oracle and his opinion is negatived by the fact sent as a small tribute from an unknown and humble man. The man is not seen, his fact is taken, and the whole testimony of humanity, as far as it can be collected, is the basis on which we make the law. The ruler sends for statistics, and figures are collected from every corner of the country; not till then can he venture on a law, because he knows that his opinion has no weight if another man, however mean, shall produce facts which prove him to be acting against the natural course of events. Eloquence has changed its features, and although still of value, because there are times when from the apathy of man they require to be roused to their duty, yet to a true man ready to do according to his convictions, the facts are sufficient, and the conclusion is such as all men will agree in if these facts be clear and abundant.

Truth has become a deduction in so many cases, that Government itself, which is our first notion of power, has become a science, and we yield not to the will of a man but to the completeness of the conclusion. Our Government is becoming a science, and the more it is a science the more will all men be satisfied. Whenever it is not a science, men are discontented; inasmuch as it is not a thoroughly understood science men must be discontented, because any one cannot have his due and deserved treatment.

The physical sciences have advanced farthest, the laws made out are more complete than the laws made out in the political parts of Government. In this reason, as far as they are concerned, Government has given up into the hands of science all it can do. It is no man's opinion that the streets be lighted, and paved, and sewered,—it is a fact that they must be so, for our health and moral well-being. It was an opinion that a man might keep his house in as filthy a state as he pleased, and we saw no reason why he should not, until science said that it was inconsistent with the well-being of himself and others; and his house was invaded. As far as political economy is a science, Government cannot oppose it, and would not wish to do so; there it yields itself up to offices and to machinery, which goes like any other piece of scientific apparatus.

Science has no arbitrary laws; it is merciful and kind: there is no respect of persons; there is no pleasing the rich and displeasing of the poor. But science also is stern, very stern: there is no controlling allowed, there is no deviation from its laws, there is no mercy shown where there has been crime: it deals out hard laws never to be disobeyed; hard injunctions, an appeal against which is never heard. When men know them they cease to appeal, and science is, therefore, dominant and undisputed.

Such is science generally. Every thing is right when it gets based on a true scientific basis, taking science in its higher meaning.

Since physical laws have as yet yielded most to generalisation, we mostly look to external nature when we speak of science; but every other branch

of knowledge would be equally a science if equally understood. In the more limited meaning of science, we are led to look on the strange properties which the materials of the world are daily proving themselves to possess. So wonderful these properties, that some believed that from them we shall receive an explanation of all the mysteries of life. By science we are taught to elevate bodies once looked on as degraded; for there are men to whom science is wearisome, because they feel as if degrading themselves by a constant attention to sticks and stones. Ever comes some weary mathematical law, expressed in figures and in letters of the alphabet; or there comes some weary round of oxygen and hydrogen, unintelligible to many, and looked on as symbols also expressing some scientific opinion. These men err, however, in their appreciation of stocks and stones; the whole world is made of such matters. As far as we know, the whole solar system may have a similar formation; at least, it is made of matters having some of the same properties. Science is always impartial; it despises nothing: it teaches us to look at nothing as common or unclean.

This degraded matter, dull and inert, penetrated apparently by mere want of character, heavy from its mere want of power to rise, from its utter incapacity, as we might suppose, to proceed towards any higher existence, to make even one advance towards motion, which is so intimately connected with life, has, after all, a something in it which is called weight, by which it is connected, as by a mystic chain, with all that is, and has its permanent and recognisable relations with much, if not with all, that was and will be.

It is for science, therefore, to uphold the high character of the subjects of which it treats; it is for physical science to show the high position of matter, and the great importance of its laws, and if it be shown at any time that the advance of our physical is also intimately connected with the advance of our mental civilization, it is not to be said that we are degrading the mental below the position it has held, but rather that we are raising the physical to take that position which by its characteristics it is destined to take.

Science is clear, plain, and indisputable; wherever it comes there dispute ceases.

If scientific men dispute, it is about what shall be science in their estimation, or what is science in the decrees of creation. Wherever it can be introduced it puts

a question at rest, and hence at all times every man has been anxious to stretch his own little bit of science to know as much as possible. Its words have been listened to with fear and trembling by men who have imagined that religion would die out of the earth if science advanced, and devout men have left the study of nature from the fear of seeing what would upset their faith. So powerful are the ordeals of science, so utterly without appeal. It is with delight that each party handles a new fact corroborative of his view, and men, from the times of Galileo downwards, have been ready to use it to secure their purpose, or abuse and cease to learn when it acted against their interest or belief. At present science seems to have ceased to fright. Men yield before it; it crushes as it moves along, and the power is growing up among us scarcely seen and felt, coming to us in the shape of a new mode of communicating between Great Britain and France, in a new mode of going from Wales to Anglesea, and in a new star or comet, a nine days' wonder, because of the many other accompanying wonders. Science may be said now for the first time, although highly honoured of old, to be asserting for itself a position as one of the great powers of the country. It is acknowledged by the state as a companion in all its labours, by towns as a director over their municipal councils, by individuals also as a guide in their most obscure domestic arrangements. Still we cannot but feel that its present position is but a beginning, and that it has gained it only amongst the most educated of the country, and where the demand for improvement has been most pressing. It will be well for us that it progress farther, and that we be lifted out of the region of caprice and guided by the wise arm of law, for we may truly say that it is better for us to fall into the hands of God than into the hands of man.

In one sense and to many people it is painful to see science so ruthlessly advancing and the individual opinion of man giving way to united results of many men not to be looked on as heroes—

"And the individual withers and the world is more and more."

But there is yet no fear that the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are nearly exhausted; and there is still room enough for individual greatness to show itself, either in extending the bounds of science, or in the display of those higher instincts of humanity, where we feel men want a guide, and where science has not ventured to approach with its scales and compasses.

LIEBIG AND BISCHOFF'S EVIDENCE.—GÖRLITZ MURDER.—The question was asked, Is it possible under existing circumstances, is it probable or certain, that the Countess Görlich died by spontaneous combustion, and in consequence of it came into the position in which she was found? The general opinion of the scientific men was decidedly against the possibility of spontaneous fire, and those who at first spoke in favour of it changed their minds or became silent. Professor Bischoff, of Giessen, then read his opinion, which had the consent also of Liebig. He looked on the prevailing opinions concerning spontaneous combustion as the product, not of science, but of ignorance. On enquiry, he had found only two cases from 1840 to 1848 which were attested by living witnesses, which witnesses were by no means competent to give an opinion. One, which had gone the round of the papers lately, was particularly enquired after. It was stated to have occurred in Paris; Liebig wrote to Paris for information, and had received letters from several distinguished chemists, such as Regnault and Pelouze, and also from the Prefect of Police, asserting that the whole narration was a fiction—in fact, a lie; and Regnault, moreover, expressed his decided belief that spontaneous combustion was impossible. Professor Bischoff continued to support his opinion of the impossibility of the occurrence, believing at the same time that there are many marvellous things to be seen, he could not consider that this was to be reckoned among the number, because it directly contradicts well-known scientific principles. He laid great stress on the fact of the great amount of water in all the parts of the human body; and believed that, even in a state of sickness, no such extraordinary occurrence could take place, and that these things could best be proved by the principles of the science of chemistry. He showed also how very little reason we had to believe the common opinion concerning the action of alcohol saturating the body, and the improbability of any external cause setting the body of man or other animal on fire, under the condition alluded to. He showed also that the blood having received any alcohol rapidly gave it out again by the lungs during respiration; and as to the existence of alcohol in other parts of the body besides the blood, the evidence, he said, was very contradictory. As to the appearance of flame issuing from the mouth, he cut it up entirely by his severe criticism.

This is another instance of the progress of science, another marvel removed, if we are to believe the evidence, as far as the professors seem to believe themselves. But we cannot help reflecting that men are not deceived without a cause, and that even a lie has some origin in nature, not entirely a fabrication of the mind. It may indeed be doubted whether the mind has the power of imagining anything perfectly original. Although we must bear in mind that what Professor Bischoff said was not in reference to science merely, it would have been more satisfactory for general science and for the public in general, to have had an explanation of the extraordinary fact which has so frequently been brought before us as spontaneous combustion. We must take the higher scientific evidence given of its very great improbability, of its never having been proved, of its being witnessed generally, if not always, by incompetent persons, in short of its being a subject that must be explained before it can be looked on as historical. But that a state has occurred which to some persons had an appearance of combustion must be allowed, and it is the business of science rather to find out what it is, than to deny the existence of what it has been explained to be. The explanation, spontaneous combustion, may be wrong; what was it then? Science is sometimes too confident; no, science is always true: but the very decision which it has the power of making brings a state of confidence into our minds which acts where it has no right to act. Lord Bacon says, in his *Sylva Sylvorum*, that sea-water may be filtered into fresh, by merely passing it through sand. Many people did this so far as the filtering went, but they got sea-water again. One tried it by passing it through fifteen pots of sand, and he found then that the water did come through fresh for a time, and later experiments have sufficiently proved it. The experiment described by Bacon was on a large scale: it was required that the water should pass through a great deal of sand; the same circumstance brought the same results to those who came after; but he erred in supposing that the sand would allow the water to run pure for ever, and his followers erred in supposing that it would not run fresh at all. We still have lingering about us a popular, perhaps an unscientific, wish for an explanation of the reports as to spontaneous combustion; how have they originated, and what is the state?

The case alluded to by Bischoff, as said to have occurred at Paris, went the round of the papers in England also, at least we suppose it to be the same, which some of the papers here were quick enough to recognise as a friend of the monster cabbage, and to head it also "French penny-a-lining." It ended by saying that there was nothing left but a handful of ashes, which we cannot, after what the authorities have stated, believe to be even possible.

The court seems to have been struck by the admirable manner in which Professor Bischoff treated the subject, and all doubt seems to have been removed. Of course it was not his business to explain what many would like to know, the cause or origin of the popular belief.

Portfolio.

We should do our utmost to encourage the Beautiful, for the Useful encourages itself.—
GOTTHEL

THE APPRENTICESHIP OF LIFE.

By G. H. LEWES.

SECOND EPISODE.—THE INITIATION OF LOVE.

CHAP. I.—THE HAZARD OF THE DIE.

ARMAND returned to Paris to experience something of the trouble which each man brings upon himself who thinks for himself. With his father, and his father's friends, there was little hope of his being permitted to maintain his opinions in peace. They talked, indeed, fluently and even eloquently of tolerance; but they understood it not. They spoke with bitterness of the bigotry of priests, and were unaware of their own. The idea of a youth educated in their enlightened system deserting over to the enemy, was peculiarly exasperating to them; and in the same spirit of charity as that which applied the Boot, the Thumbscrew, and the auto-da-fé, they applied the petty persecution of taunt, ridicule, and menace.

Montaigne has well said *la créance ne se manie pas à coups de poings*; and the history of the world tells plainly that no ungenerous mode of argument can have any other effect than that of strengthening the conviction it pretends to shake. Persecution is the mother of heresy. It drives the hesitating mind to conclusions that mind would not otherwise, perhaps, have reached.

Of all persecution none, perhaps, is so irritating and so idle as that which takes place in families: it has all the injustice and absurdity which disgrace public persecutions, without having their dignity and importance.

Colonel de Fayol at first imagined his triumph would be easy. He was a man of wit and capacity; and being profoundly convinced of the falsehood and absurdity of all religion, he never doubted that he should be able to wean his son from his new opinions. For some time, therefore, he contented himself with arguing. At length he grew exasperated. Taunts took the place of reasons; menaces followed taunts. But the boy was immovable.

Have you never been struck with one peculiarity in argument: I mean the impossibility, as it appears to both of you, that the other should not see the matter in its *true* light? It is clear to *me*,—you *must* see it if you will but look honestly! Set aside your prejudices and contemplate my argument candidly, and you must agree with me. But you will not; you are afraid of being beaten, and I get irritated at your obstinacy.

This was singularly the case with the Colonel. Nothing could be clearer than his arguments, or more conclusive, yet his son was stubborn!

The strife continued for more than three years, at the end of which period, home becoming insupportable, Armand left it one day in a passion, vowing never to return.

Whither should he go? What could he do? His resolution was soon fixed: he would go to sea!

Behold our hero, then, not yet nineteen, trudging along the dusty high road—for his slender purse would not permit his taking a place in the diligence—his ardent spirit delighting in the freedom from constraints and irritations it met with at home, and thirsting for romantic adventure as we thirst for it at nineteen! The world was before him, and he was free to choose his path.

It is not easy to paint the exquisite delight he felt in his new condition. In the first place he was enjoying the pride of martyrdom. To suffer in a great cause has always had its glorious recompense of inward approbation, transmuting the pain into delight. We hug such sorrows closer to our bosom, and with our own hands press the dagger deeper into the wound: for the more we suffer, the more we rejoice; the greater the pain, the greater the pride. The tears which music wrings from the trembling soul are not more unequivocal symptoms of enjoyment, than are the means forced from us by persecution.

To the pride of martyrdom Armand added the pride of romance. At his age to be cast upon the world to follow an adventurous career, had nothing in it but what was captivating; and endless were the dramas his imagination schemed, as he trudged onwards under the burning sun. The road was monotonous, but his thoughts saved him from weariness, for he was young, strong, and hopeful.

Sometimes he would pause by the road side to rest. And as he sat there drawing figures on the dust with his walking stick, or bathing his heated feet in a running stream, a thousand romantic evanescent fancies crossed his imagination, and whiled away the time.

He lived in dreams. The huge diligence came lumbering past him, with its jingling bells and vociferating postillions; slow waggons toiled along the road; sunburnt peasants cast stupid inquiring looks at him as they came up, and little ragged children would pause over their hunch of black bread and stare at him; then came flocks of sheep raising clouds of dust; and gaunt lanky pigs grunted close beside him; above him the intense blue sky, around him the merry chirping and twittering of birds.

Sometimes he came upon a wood, and plunged into it, seeking a spot where the grass was thickest and longest; and there he would lie for hours, watching the glinting sunlight on the leaves, and the endless beauty of the

various shadows. The lazy sounds of noon, the murmurous harmony of insects, and the songs of birds—sounds so gentle that they only served to make the general stillness more noticeable—filled him with a vague and dreamy beatitude.

Never in after life were those hours entirely forgotten. They were not simply hours of present delight, but left in his soul ineffaceable traces which sweetened the future. Who does not remember such days? Who can look back into the past and not discover a few luminous spots which time has failed to dim, days of delight in which no incident occurred that perceptibly affected our fortunes, yet days marked in the calendar as those of quiet and enchanting happiness? Such days are always passed in some rural spot, and the perfume of flowers lingers round them still. Do they not seem like glimpses of our immortality?

So long as Armand's scanty supply of money lasted his journey was one of uninterrupted enjoyment; but when his final piece of ten *sous* was spent on a supper and night's lodging he began to awaken to the "stern realities" of his position. A glass of milk sufficed him for breakfast, however, and he started gaily.

All that day he trudged on with no other nourishment than an occasional glass of milk, which was given freely by the cottagers, who would have added to it a slice of black bread, had his pride permitted him to ask for it; but he preferred enduring hunger.

That night he slept under a haystack. Next morning he awoke feeling very faint. The tall spires of churches rising up against the sky told him that he was at no great distance from a town, which—could he but reach it—he had no doubt would somehow throw assistance in his way.

But how to reach that town? He was so exhausted by over fatigue and want of food, that he staggered rather than walked along the road. He had not even been able to procure a glass of milk. The cottage at which he first stopped to beg one was tenanted by an old woman who told him in a manner anything but polite, that she was forced to *buy* her milk and had none to give away.

This was the first refusal he had met, and it sunk deep into his heart. Tears of wounded pride rolled down his cheek as he toiled along under the fierce sun. Not even his horrible exhaustion could induce him again to brave the risk of denial. Some water scooped up in his hand from a spring was all the refreshment he could get.

He walked feebly on. The tall spires which in the morning had beckoned him, now at noon seemed as distant as ever.

He began to lose heart. The cravings of hunger, the drooping of his spirits, the weariness of his limbs, and the dull lethargic somnolence which was creeping over him, subdued his youthful strength. He began to think of death: it made him think of Gabrielle—that flower which lived but for a day! She appeared before him, as of old, seated in the high-backed chair, looking out upon the sea rolling in the sunlight, with Frangipolo at her side, talking grave and graceful wisdom, and loving her with his eyes.

The vision grew painfully distinct as he sat himself on a heap of stones by the road side. They were hot from the burning rays. Not a breath of air tempered the fierceness of the sun which poured down upon him.

In his ears there was a cool and pleasant sound as of the splash of waves upon the beach. Before him was spread a delicious breakfast. Gabrielle sat at the table motioning him to come and seat himself beside her. The white cloth, the breakfast service, the eggs and butter, the smoking *galette*, the bottles of wine, and plates of fruit were all tempting him; yet he could not move towards them. Gabrielle smiled and beckoned; the Comte grew impatient; and at last Armand rose to obey them—and fell senseless on the heap of stones.

CHAP. II.—HORTENSE.

A sensation of delightful warmth and returning vigour as some wine poured down his throat was the first glimmering Armand had of consciousness.

He opened his eyes wildly, and saw an anxious face bending over him. He closed them again to reopen them with a stronger effort, and fix a steady gaze upon that face.

"Thank God!" exclaimed a deep rich melodious voice, which seemed to ring through his whole being.

He saw himself supported in the arms of a woman whose face was entirely unknown to him; she looked at him with agitated curiosity, and in her hand she held a flask of wine from which she once more forced him to drink.

He was in a travelling carriage, and whirling along at a rapid pace.

"What is this? Where am I? Who are you?" were his eager inquiries. "Hush! keep quiet. Drink a little more wine."

He obeyed; but after swallowing a few mouthfuls he dropped his head once more upon her lap and sank asleep. The effect of the wine on his exhausted frame was too much for him.

The stupor did not last long, and he seemed to hear the words "poor boy!" murmured by that rich voice as he once more raised his head and looked at his rescuer.

Never had he seen any one so beautiful; and he forgot everything to gaze at her. She recalled him to a sense of his position by asking how he felt.

"Much better—quite well now, thank you. But how did I get here, and who are you who take this interest in me?"

"That is very soon told. Looking out of the carriage window I saw you rise from a heap of stones, and with your arms stretched out as if about to

embrace some one, you fell flat. I ordered the carriage to stop. You had fainted. I took you in, and you are now driving where we shall find medical assistance."

"Thank you again and again," said he, "but I need food more than medical aid."

"Food!"

"You are surprised at it? I am starving!"

He began to relate the origin of his want; this led to questions and answers, which opening up the whole of his history, he frankly, with the charming confidence of youth, told her everything. On mentioning his name she exclaimed,

"A Fayol are you? Then we are cousins!"

"Indeed!"

"Have you never heard of Madame de Chazalon?"

"Is that you? . . . How delightful! . . . You must permit a cousinly embrace," he added laughing, as he bent forward to salute her. She consented with grace; and in a few minutes they were babbling like magpies, asking questions which they did not wait to hear answered, and rummaging throughout the family history for details and anecdotes. Thus occupied they entered the town.

As soon as the carriage began to rattle over the stones Armand felt the pangs of hunger becoming once more imperious. He had forgotten them in his lovely cousin, but now they reassumed their importunity.

The carriage stopped at the door of a handsome hotel. In a very short time the table was laid out with cold chicken, a salad, an omelette, some bouillon, and a bottle of ordinaire. A ferocious onslaught was made by him in spite of the half-earnest, half-playful interference of his cousin, who was afraid to let him eat much after so long a fast. But he was in the highest spirits, and talked and ate as if he had never been in better condition.

The keen eyes of his cousin, however, soon perceived that this animation was unhealthy. The burning cheek and burning hand told her too plainly that the excitement was feverish; and she tried to keep him quiet. But in vain! Talk he would, laugh he would, gaze on her and doat upon her face he would. How prevent that?

Madame de Chazalon was uneasy until she had once got him into her carriage, and was whirling away with him to her country house, where he was to be nursed. Her own physician was sent for; but on seeing Armand he pronounced him to be only suffering from a little feverishness, which a quiet night would dissipate. It was not, however, till he had fallen asleep that his cousin's alarms were quite quieted.

A strange inexplicable feeling of interest filled her heart for this boy, thus suddenly thrown upon the world to struggle his way through it. No woman would have been unmoved by it, but hers was a truly feminine nature, distinguished above all things by its *maternity*.

Have you not known women deficient in maternity—women with large families, perhaps, and nevertheless wanting in that one exquisite characteristic of woman? They may be kind, sensible, judicious mothers; but they have not what I strive to express in the word maternity—that large, simple, sympathetic lovingness which springing from a warm, unselfish, tender soul, constitutes the moral superiority of woman.

Madame de Chazalon belonged to the womanly natures, and her sympathy was always active and vigilant. A pleasant *protecting* feeling mingled with her interest in Armand. Their relationship—his story—the strangeness of their meeting—all heightened the interest she felt for him.

He deserved it. Though not handsome Armand was very attractive: there was an earnestness in his flashing eager eyes, and a simple manliness in his demeanour which irresistibly prepossessed you; and the lovingness of his thoughtful face completed the charm of first impressions. Rough in appearance he had the aplomb of a man, without the affectation of boys of that age who affect the man.

As his cousin stole gently into his room to see if he were sleeping in comfort, she was greatly struck by the childish innocence of his face in repose, one arm thrown round his head in an attitude of careless grace: the fire and peculiarity of his countenance came from his eyes, which *looked through* you, and seemed as if charged with triple the ordinary volition of men; these closed, his face had the gentle aspect of infancy.

His cousin seated herself by his bedside, and began to ruminate on the schemes for his future which came crowding upon her mind. That he should go to sea was out of the question. Yet what was to be done?

"Time enough to think of that when he is well," she finally determined, and then left him to the blissful dreams which visited his pleasant slumbers.

It was eight o'clock before he awoke next morning, and the sun was shining into his room. Raising himself upon his elbow, he looked round, and in a few minutes recalled the events of the preceding day.

He rose and dressed. All fever had left him; but a lassitude remained, which told him he had been ill. The house was very quiet, and he felt like one in a dream. He moved about in a sort of half consciousness, trying to accustom himself to the novelty of everything.

The dreamlike sensation continued, even when he had descended into the breakfast-parlour, where the valet enquiring after his health, informed him that Madame was in the shrubbery.

He walked to the open window. The fresh perfume of flowers borne upon the soft air of morning stole into the room, and this added to the bright look of the trees and sweet chirrup of the birds gave him a delicious

sensation, which was soon overpowered by the exquisite vision of his cousin, who, without her bonnet, and holding a parasol over her head, was at that moment standing amidst the flowers of which she seemed the queen.

Dressed in a loose flowing morning robe of white muslin, ornamented with exquisite lace, Hortense, lovely as she was, seemed to have caught fresh beauty from her environment; flowers *accompanied* her better than almost any woman: she knew it: they were one of her luxuries. In her dark luxuriant hair she wore a profusion of them; and she must have had the genius of flowers, for certainly no one ever arranged them with such picturesquesque audacity. The Goddess Flora herself could not have decked her head with more taste and prodigal beauty. As with her flowers, so with her toilettes. Hortense had the art of creating them for herself alone; No one else could venture on her daring yet successful costume, which, setting aside all the prescriptions of fashion, were triumphs of the art. The great secret was that she dressed with an eye to her own style of beauty, whereas other women dress with an eye to some standard set up by Fashion.

Hortense was now in her three-and-thirtieth year, and in spite of all that toilette could accomplish, she looked her age and more. She was indubitably in her summer time. But what a glorious summer! and what magnificence was promised even for the autumn! Her figure, once perfect, had lost its yielding elegance of youth, and had ripened into a fulness which, though not destitute of grace, betrayed her age, and even added to it. In her large, round, dimpled arms, the heavy beauty of which gave a peculiar dignity to her actions, and in her figure, a connoisseur would have seen charms which more than compensated for the loss of that incomparable freshness and elegance of youth, over which a poet or an artist might have sighed. Everything was harmonious in her. The trailing indolence of her movements, so quiet and so graceful, seemed exactly suited to her style of beauty and to no other.

Her face was younger than her figure; but even on it experience had set its indelible trace: it had disengaged her features from that sweet *indefiniteness* which seems to linger round girlhood, and to vanish only as the years deepen. All the wavering lines had become settled. The face was *moulded* by the soul. Her complexion was of that warm brown through which the colour shone softly like light through an alabaster vase—the colour Titian's pencil lingered so fondly over. The texture of her skin was as delicate as it had been in youth; nor were there any of those signs of fatigue about the eyes and temples which first betray wan vitality. Her eyes were large, open, and lustrous, their rich brown pupils seemed as if bathed in light. Her mouth was full and liberal—the ruddy lips "provoking a kiss," as Anacreon would have said. To finish this imperfect description I would say she had what the French style *les mains royales*.

Such was the vision—if I have succeeded in giving you any image of this beautiful creature—which in the light of a summer morn, surrounded with flowers, met Armand's astonished and enraptured sight.

She looked up and beheld him; a bright smile broke over her face as she exclaimed:

"What, up! And how do you feel now?"

The window was open; the ground was but half a dozen feet below, and—in another instant he was at her side.

"Imprudent boy!" she said as she held out her cheek to his salute.

(To be continued.)

THE ARISTOCRATICAL.

In these days of commotion and turbulence it is thought dignified to abstain from every expression of warmth and energy. The passive and immovable are types of ideal beauty. On the same principle "*chiseled features*" and "*aristocratic heads*" invariably enter into the description of every author who expects celebrity. In these models set before us for our admiration, not only the features are really and truly chiseled, but are precisely of the same material as that which the chisel works upon. It is hardly worth while to expose the impropriety of the expression in our novelists; but it is time they should begin to learn that what in statuary is visibly chiseled is crude and imperfect. The inferior workman has performed all that; and the sculptor comes forward to efface the vestige of it with his consummate skill. The word "*aristocratical*" requires more notice, and shall have it. There are those who assign to the peerage alone the title of *aristocratical*, ignorant or dissembling that families more ancient than three-fourths of it lost property and station in the wars of the Roses. At the very least, this portion of the nobility, as the peers alone are called, are not only of recent distinction, but also of servile descent; that is below knighthood. This dignity, formerly most coveted, and most justly, is now reduced in England as much as the Senatorial Order is in Rome, although very differently; the knightly being multiplied here beyond all computation, and conferred on men who have neither horse nor ass, nor could venture to bestride the lower: on the contrary, the *Senatorial Order* in the Eternal City (the word Rome, like its reminiscences, being out of date) the *Senatorial Order* is reduced to one personage, sitting with his arms before him under a crafty old priest, and kissing his toe for the privilege of doing it. Unquestionably there must be in existence many thousand descendants of the noblest Romans. Probably gangs of these are at this very hour labouring in the mines of Cumberland, labouring in darkness under the ocean; probably no few among the crews who are conveying to the Thames the fruit of their labour, are descendants from the sea-kings. What became of the Romans left behind by the legions,

when these legions abandoned Gaul and Britain? The same as the Moors did after: they repaired their losses by piracy. I have seen black hair taken from the tomb of a Norman. The Danes and Angles were universally fair-haired, although not the Swedes; but the Swedes had worked enough at home, withholding them from invasions. Families in Ireland might, if they were idle and silly, claim descent from those who conquered our island, before the valiant and politic conqueror invaded it from Neustria. Their position makes them *exclusives*, not their pride. They know that the best blood of man is merely the blood of oxen, sheep, and swine, percolated through his veins and arteries; these make us in strength and wealth; these are our sustenance until we become the sustenance of viler things.

WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR.

AMERICAN ART.

The publication of Felix Darley's illustrations to *Rip Van Winkle*, which Mr. Cundall has recently undertaken, introduces an American to our notice whom we are glad to recognize as a genuine Artist—as a man who can do the thing he dreams, whose Art is not a mere aspiration but a creative power. These six designs display real pictorial conception, and such nice yet unobtrusive observation of details, that the more you look at them the more the conception fills your mind. We are conscious of a certain "set" look in the figures; but how few modern painters can give the sense of motion! Observe the frontispiece; the shrewish wife wants vehemence and impulse in figure, though with a sort of thin energy and aggressiveness in the face; but how admirably observed is the sleek bewilderment of the comfortable neighbour interposing between the wrathful wife and her listless husband—what a strange incompetent distress wrinkling her fat face! Rip himself seems to us rather sheepish, as if his wife's tongue had made him idiotic; but the tale presents him as a docile good-natured anything-for-a-quiet-life sort of man. The expression is better caught in the second plate, where Rip is depicted amusing the children—a charming and natural picture, full of minute observation and infantile grace. The solidity of the figures here is worth noticing. That boy lolling on the bench and looking down upon the paper boat is a bit of Mulready. Masterly in design and character is plate three. The stolid expression of the old man reading the paper and clutching it as if to wring out the sense more certainly than his slow brain would let him; the dull look of the deaf man, and above all the marvellous weight and lumpishness of that Daniel Lambert of a Dutchman, heaped up between two chairs with an expression of bestial beatitude and after-dinner content weighing down his fat eyelids, while his double chin and ventripotent corporation hang lax, show in the artist's perception of character and mastery of form which greatly excite our curiosity to see his other productions. The next plate is an imitation of Retsch. The fifth is scarcely up to the text. The sixth is as good in its way as No. 3,—full of character delicately indicated, truthful, and beautiful in design. As a specimen of graceful naturalness look at that young woman listening to the tale, and holding the little child, who seems impatient to be off. Nothing can be better than the variety of the three listeners. In short, the designs are such as to give a favourable idea of the American Art-Union which issued them. In the present publication Mr. Cundall has had them reduced by Daguerreotype and etched on steel, and has added the text, thus making a delightful drawing-room book.

THE LYRIC DRAMA.

It may appear strange that the opera of *Mosi in Egitto* should be so little known in England, but when we consider the prejudices to be overcome before any sacred work can be placed in an operatic form before an English audience, we cease to wonder that lessees of fashionable Opera-houses should not wish thus to shock the respectable notions of their subscribers. In an oratorio a gentleman in a fashionable white waistcoat and white kid gloves may represent any sacred person he pleases; but dress him in appropriate costume, surround him with scenery, and place him upon the stage—forthwith the thing becomes rank blasphemy, and down comes a thunderbolt, launched from the dread office of the Lord Chamberlain. The directors of the Royal Italian Opera, feeling that the music of *Mosi* was too good to be killed by the subject, have be thought themselves of an expedient at once simple and satisfactory—that is merely to call all the characters by different names. The opera certainly remains the same; the real personages come unmistakeably before us, with all the aid of Egyptian scenery and costume—but the "blasphemy" is gone at once, and the boxes are consequently filled with rank and fashion. Moses and Pharaoh, and the Israelites are all there—but Moses is called "Zora," Pharaoh is called "Merisame," and the Israelites are called the "Bactrians," and that of course is a very different thing. In this state, therefore, the opera was successfully produced on Saturday evening.

The name of Rossini is so little associated in the English mind with the grand and massive style of writing requisite for an opera like the *Mosi*, that few, indeed, amongst the audience could have anticipated the effect produced by the broad choral writing so plentifully scattered throughout the work. To say that it is really an opera of the highest class would be a manifest absurdity, seeing with what company we must then associate it—but we really feel that in truth of colouring, and unity of design, it far surpasses the *Semiramide*. The school may be called that of the sacred-Italian, with a strong dash of the broad, and energetic German character, especially in the choruses and recitatives. The music of Zora is stamped with an individuality throughout, and the calm and hopeful character of the Bactrian choruses is finely contrasted with the stern and overbearing style of those of the Assyrian army. M. Zelger, who made his débüt in the part of Zora, has a bass voice of remarkably fine quality, but of limited compass. His conception of the character was perfect, and he sang throughout with the utmost care; but his voice occasionally failed him when he most wanted it; and in the great finale to the third act, his solo was marred by the attempt to reach the high E.

Signor Tamburini sang the music of the love-sick Amenofi like a true disciple of the school of "Young Italy," creating a great effect in the duet with Tamburini, "Parlar, spiegar," by jerking out the upper A and B from the chest; a feat which he was called upon to repeat. If Signor Tamburini is in the slightest degree presuming upon the position which our contemporaries have so promptly assigned him, we would wish to mix our praises of the past with caution for the future, and to assure him that a pure and legitimate style will yet be demanded of him, ere he can occupy the post of first tenor at the Royal Italian Opera. Signor Tamburini gave the music of the Assyrian King with the utmost dramatic energy, and, despite a little oddity of costume, looked the part well. Madame Castellan, in *Anais*, again charmed us by her fresh and artless vocalization. Her improvement since last season is manifest in every character she has assumed.

The choruses were sung throughout the opera with a precision highly creditable to all concerned. We doubt whether the finale to the third act is not one of the finest specimens of choral singing ever heard on the stage, not even excepting the "Benediction of the poignards" in the *Huguenots*. The audience could not be restrained in their applause even to the conclusion, and at the fall of the curtain there was a simultaneous burst from every part of the house. The prayer in G minor, "Dal tuo stellata soglio," which concludes the opera, although well sung, went somewhat coldly. This might be accounted for by the enthusiasm created at the end of the third act; and we have some doubts whether Rossini, in the course of the alterations he is said to have recently made, might not have effected some judicious change in the climax. The opera, as it stands, however, is exceedingly effective, and we hope that it will be as attractive as it deserves to be.

On Thursday *La Donna del Lago* was revived with a most powerful cast. The part of "Roderick Dhu" is admirably suited for the energetic style of Signor Tamburini, and he sang the music with much effect. M. Zelger, in "Douglas," fully confirmed the favourable impression he had produced on Saturday evening; and Mademoiselle Cotti, in the small part of "Albina," sang throughout with much judgment. The opera was put upon the stage in the careful manner to which we are now becoming accustomed; the picturesque scene of the gathering of the clans producing a most powerful effect.

At Her Majesty's Theatre, the only event of any importance has been the appearance of Signor Baucardi, a new tenor, in the part of "Oronte," in Verdi's noisy opera *I Lombardi*. To a voice of the purest quality he unites a sound and legitimate style of vocalization, and his success was most decisive. We must, however, impress upon vocalists the necessity of making first appearances in parts which demand the highest artistic requisites, if they wish to attain anything beyond mere temporary popularity.

THE DRAMA.

FRENCH PLAYS.—M. Samson and Mademoiselle Denain are making way with the public: the former as an accomplished man whose intelligence supplies in fini-h and subtlety what may be wanting in force and breadth of humour; the latter as an actress formed upon fine models, with considerable tact in appropriating to her use the traditions of good comedy. Her voice, gesture, and deportment are very agreeable, and always verging on fascination. In that lively little comedy *La Marquise de Senneterre*, she was seen to great advantage as the timid affectionate wife; but in the sudden assumption of coquetry she made the common mistake of passing at one bound from rustic simplicity to finished coquetry. This was not in keeping with the character. She has come to Marion de l'Orme to learn the art of captivating men, and Marion has given her but a few of the most common precepts, whereupon she at once, and without an effort, presents herself as a model of the art she came to learn. Now it strikes us that a little *gaucherie* might very artistically have been made to appear underneath this assumption, which would have rendered it more piquant and more vraisemblable.

Two more of Samson's comedies have been produced: *Une Belle-Mère et un Gendre* (the original of *My Wife's Mother*), in which he played "Uncle Foozle" with sleepy truth and naturalness; and that admirable little *Famille Poisson* which, however, is poorly cast at this theatre: to see it as played in Paris by Provost, Regnier, and Samson, is indeed a treat!

On Wednesday Molière's *Misanthrope* was given: a serious mistake on the part of the management with such a company. These high French comedies require fine and peculiar acting to render them effective even to French audiences; but to English audiences, who have the slenderest possible appreciation of the art, and who understand but little of their language (which is not—

"The French of Stratford atte Bow,") nothing short of exquisite acting can make them intelligible. M. Samson is not equal to the part; and if Mademoiselle Denain is nearer the mark, the others are all deplorably wide of it. A word of advice, Mr. Mitchell! Stick to vaudevilles and little comedies.

SCRAPS OF THOUGHT.

XVII. A book is good, not for what it tells us, but for what it elicits and inspires. XVIII. Montaigne was a sceptic in mood; Hume a sceptic in mind.

XIX. Religion deals with the Deity Present, Philosophy with the Omnipresent Deity. The aim of true wisdom is to make the Omnipresent Deity in our mind, and the Present Deity in our heart, one beautiful harmony. Act when thou hast attained this harmony, and thou art the holiest of heroes.

XX. Our age has invented the means of doing without invention; and we cannot have more signal proof of its degradation than that it is so proud of this its only discovery.

XXI. Those bigots to whom the form is so much dearer than the spirit prefer the chaff, because it retains the semblance of the grain, to the grain itself made into nourishing bread, but crushed out of its original shape in order to be the fitter for man's food.

XXII. The lowest order of the critical faculty is the discernment of differences, the highest the perception of the relations and proportions. It is the absence of this highest order of the critical faculty which is one main cause of our age's barrenness.

XXIII. The cry of men at the present day is for more light; they seek with feverish eagerness in Irvingite visions and similar quackeries. But is not the grand and only vital want that men should act up to the light which already is in the world?

XXIV. Egoism and egotism are often in inverse proportions. A man may talk little about himself merely to conceal his egoism or to accomplish his objects; while another man, from the very excess of a frank, earnest, generous nature, may talk of himself incessantly.

XXV. The four things to be reconciled in all Religion and in all Philosophy are God, the Universe, Man, and the Individual. In proportion as one of these is predominant is there a one-sided Religion and a one-sided Philosophy.

XXVI. The rule of a purist is consistency, that of a brave and true man persistency.

XXVII. In religion the more the person of the Deity is distinct, the less there is of religion; in morality, however, the person of Deity cannot be too distinct.

XXVIII. Noble is he who assails the iniquities of his age; nobler he who holds up a high ideal to his age; noblest he who does both.

XXIX. Why should we rouse a man out of sleep by a blow on the face when we can do so better by a touch on the shoulder? And why, when a giant is to be slain, employ the impotent touch when we should strike the omnipotent blow? But are not all our living reformers as maladroit in awakening as they are weak in combating? Thus they make far more enemies than they need, while they have not the strength to overcome even one.

XXX. It shows a want of poetry in ourselves not to see poetry in all things, even the most mechanical.

XXXI. It requires far greater generosity to know how to treat one of our brethren after we have done him a kindness, than to do him the kindness itself.

XXXII. Minerva was the goddess of wisdom and of war, which signifies that the highest of all wisdom is that which is bought by struggle and conflict.

XXXIII. Apollo was the god of music and poetry, and likewise of medicine; whereby we are taught that poetry and music are the best medicine for the troubled soul—sometimes even for the troubled body.

Matters of Fact.

SIPPING RETURNS.—It appears from returns made by order of the House of Commons that the number of British vessels entered inwards in the year 1849 was 23,646, and the tonnage 4,884,210; of foreign vessels 13,426, and the tonnage 2,035,690. The number of British vessels cleared outwards in the same year was 22,328, and the tonnage 4,785,428; of foreign vessels 15,275, and the tonnage 2,299,060. The number of vessels belonging to the United Kingdom wrecked in 1849 was 506, and the tonnage 102,516. Of this number six were steamers.

NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED ON RAILWAYS.—A Parliamentary return has been issued, extending to thirty-three folio pages, showing the number and description of persons employed on all railways on the 30th of June last. The total number employed on railways open and unopen was 159,784. On open lines there were 55,968 persons employed; and on railways not open for traffic there were 103,816, of which number 83,052 were labourers. On the open lines there were 158 secretaries and managers; 32 treasurers; 107 engineers; 314 superintendents; 120 storekeepers; 138 accountants and cashiers; 490 inspectors and time-keepers; 1300 station-masters; 103 draughtsmen; 4021 clerks; 709 foremen; 1839 engine-drivers; 1871 assistant engine-drivers and firemen; 1631 guards and breakmen; 1640 switchmen; 1361 gatekeepers; 1508 policemen or watchmen; 8238 porters and messengers; 5508 plateayers; 10,809 artificers; 14,028 labourers; and 144 miscellaneous employment; making a total of 55,968. The total length of railways open on the 30th of June was 5,447 miles and 103 chains. Length of railway in the course of construction, 1,504 miles and 204 chains. And 5,132 miles neither open nor in the course of construction on the 30th of June. The result shows that on the 30th of June the length of railways authorized to be used for the conveyance of passengers was 5,132 miles and 384 chains; and the number of persons employed was 159,784.

THE LINEN TRADE OF ULSTER.—In general, this staple trade of the province is in a very healthy state. The demand for goods for export is brisk, and, we think, likely to continue so. The home trade has been the least encouraging, as neither manufacturers nor bleachers have been able to realize any advance of consequence. They, however, had been previously better paid; and the rise in yarns suitable for heavy linens not having been in proportion to other descriptions, a fair margin may still be calculated on.—*Northern Whig.*

THE CHURCH AND DISSENT IN WALES.—In the early part of this session a printed return was issued by the House of Commons, showing the number of churches and chapels attached to the Established Church in each of the four Welsh Dioceses, and the number of services performed in each, distinguishing the Welsh from the English. In the last two numbers of the weekly papers published in the Principality, this return is noticed; commencing with the diocese of Llandaff, eleven parishes are taken alphabetically, and the result is as follows:—Number of churches, twenty-one; total number of services in the above churches every Sunday, thirty-one; of which twenty are performed in the English language, and only eight in the Welsh language, three services being performed alternately once a fortnight, in Welsh and English. Annexed to each parish is an account of the spiritual provision afforded by the Dissenting community for the natives of the country, by which it appears that there are in these eleven parishes fifty-seven Dissenting places of worship, in which there are one hundred and eleven Sunday services, ninety-nine of which are performed in the Welsh language, in addition to one hundred and ten weekly services in the same parishes provided by the Dissenters, ninety-eight of which are performed in the Welsh language, and twelve in the English.

IMPORTS OF GRAIN IN 1849.—According to a return just published, the total quantity of wheat and wheat flour imported into the United Kingdom in the year ending January 5, 1850, amounted to 4,835,280 quarters, of which 4,765,233 were from foreign countries, and 160,047 from British colonies; the average price of wheat during the year being 4s. 3d. The quantity of foreign barley and barleymeal imported in the same year was 1,389,858 quarters, the average price being 2s. 9d. The total quantity of oats and oatmeal imported was 1,307,904 quarters, of which 1,283,834 were foreign and 24,070 British colonial; the average price was 17s. 6d. Of rye-meal 246,843 quarters were imported; 246,822 from foreign countries, and 21 from British colonies, the average price being 2s. 8d. The quantity of peas and peameal imported was 236,525 quarters, of which 221,705 were foreign, and 14,820 British colonial; the average price being 3s. 2d. The total import of beans and beanmeal amounted to 458,651, all of which, with the exception of one quarter, was foreign; the average price being 3s. 2d. The quantity of Indian corn and meal imported was 2,277,224 quarters. The imports of buckwheat and buckwheatmeal amounted to 627 quarters, all but one quarter being foreign. In bere or bigg 843 quarters were imported. The aggregate quantity of grain and meal of all sorts imported in 1849 amounted to 10,753,755 quarters, the largest proportion being supplied by Denmark (1,320,571); Prussia (1,364,604); Russia (northern ports, 343,124; ports within the Black Sea, 677,633; France (1,025,009), and the United States of America (1,884,000).

DUTY ON NEWSPAPERS.—A return of the stamp and advertisement duty paid by newspapers has just been published. The aggregate number of stamps issued for newspapers in 1849 was—For England and Wales, 66,159,502 penny and 10,309,233 halfpenny stamps; for Scotland, 6,288,205 penny and 205,000 halfpenny; for Ireland, 6,345,227 penny and 38,843 halfpenny. The number of London newspapers from which advertisement duty was collected in 1849 was 160; the number of

advertisements, 886,108; and the total amount of duty, at the rate of 1s. 6d. each, £66,458 2s. The number of English provincial papers was 232, from which £62,604 13s. 6d. was received for duty on 884,729 advertisements. In Scotland 94 newspapers furnished £18,075 16s. 6d. duty, the number of advertisements being 240,901. In Ireland the amount of advertisement duty collected was £11,026 4s., being at the rate of 1s. each for 22,024 advertisements. The number of Irish newspapers was 117.

WINDOW DUTY.—The total number of houses charged with window duty for the year ending April, 1849, was, according to a statement just published, 487,411; the whole amount assessed being £1,893,988, and the net receipts, £1,813,629. The 12 towns in England paying the largest amount of window duty are—Bath, in which 3722 houses are assessed for £21,893, the net receipts being £21,986; Birmingham, 5423 houses, assessed for £16,161, net receipt, £14,986; Bristol, 3613 houses, assessed for £18,025, net receipt, £17,572; Bristol, 4350 houses, assessed for £14,675, net receipt, £13,280; Cheltenham, 1407 houses, assessed for £6998, net receipt, £6767; Clifton, 1373 houses, assessed for £9429, net receipt, £8896; Leeds, 2479 houses, assessed for £7972, net receipt, £7596; Liverpool, 11,342 houses, assessed for £32,461, net receipt, £28,856; Manchester, 7754 houses, assessed for £21,923, net receipt, £20,575; Norwich, 1871 houses, assessed for £6627, net receipt, £6465; Newcastle-on-Tyne, 2854 houses, assessed for £8320, net receipt, £7822; and Plymouth, 4527 houses, assessed for £12,297, net receipt, £11,929.

BELFAST.—Belfast has more than doubled its population since 1831, the amount then being, according to the census, 52,837, whereas the population at present is ascertained to be 105,733.

ADVANCES TO IRELAND.—It appears from a parliamentary paper, which has just been printed, that the amount of public money advanced to Ireland during the last ten years, was £1,983,580, that the interest paid on this sum has been £70,875; that the amount of principal repaid has been £101,249, and that there remains of the principal unpaid £1,882,330.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.—A return to Parliament was printed on Thursday, showing that from the 1st of June to the 31st of December last there were 106 persons killed, and 112 injured on all the railways open for public traffic. The number of passengers conveyed during the half year amounted to 34,924,469. Of the passengers 54 were injured from causes beyond their own control, 11 passengers were killed and 10 injured owing to their own misconduct or want of caution. 2 servants of companies or of contractors were killed, and 3 injured from causes beyond their own control. 62 servants of companies or of contractors were killed, and 37 injured owing to their own misconduct or want of caution. 28 trespassers and other persons, neither passengers nor servants of the company, were killed, and 7 injured by improperly crossing or standing on the railways. One child was killed and 1 injured by an engine running off the rails and entering a house. There were 2 suicides. The number of miles of railway open on the 30th of June was 5,447, and 5,996 on the 31st of December last. The increase during the half year was 549 miles.

THE TRADE OF FRANCE.—The return of the imports and exports of France, during the first quarter of 1850, shows a diminution of nearly a millions of francs on the amount received by the Treasury for the corresponding quarter of 1849, which was a period by no means remarkable for the activity of trade. The following is the state of the receipts for the first quarter of the last three years:—In 1848, when the revolution broke out, 23,022,378; in 1849, 28,612,263; in 1850, 27,854,999. It will be seen that, if matters do not improve, there must necessarily be a considerable deficiency at the end of the year—a circumstance not by any means calculated upon by the Minister of Finances, when he brought forward his budget a few weeks ago. In examining these accounts, it appears that, notwithstanding the general decline on the imports, there is on some articles a considerable increase. There is a considerable increase in the amount of duty received on mahogany, cotton, wool, lead, raw silk, coal, and in general on some of the most important raw materials used in manufactures; while there is a heavy falling off in coffee, corn, and both colonial and home-grown sugar. In foreign sugar there is a rise. The quantity imported in the first three months of 1849 was 49,981 quintals; and in 1850, 67,788 quintals; and the difference in duty was as 4,416,620 to 5,175,374. The quantity of cast-iron imported in 1850 shows a slight increase on 1849, but a great falling off as compared with 1848. In 1848 (the year of the revolution), the quantity imported was 196,013 quintals, and in 1850 only 76,297 quintals. This is in consequence of the stoppage of the works on the railways. As regards the exports the falling off is almost universal. Even wines and brandies, the exportation of which had kept their ground in the midst of the revolution, now show a deficit in comparison with 1849. The general glut of corn throughout Europe has had a similar effect on all species of grain. Corn is lower in France than it has been for the last thirty years, but it is equally low in England and other importing countries; so that there is no market for the overplus. It is singular that at Marseilles, the nearest French port to Odessa, which is the bugbear of all our Protectionists, corn is invariably higher than in any other part of France. By the last returns, the quantity sold for 13s. at Lille cost 19s. at Marseilles. In cotton and woollen yarns, in gloves, marine salt, dyed and undyed silks, plain and printed cottons and *tulles*, there is also a notable falling off. The greatest rise is in the articles which come under the denomination of *modes* which are of great importance to the trade of Paris. On this description of goods there is a rise of 200,000. There is also a trifling rise on machinery, on porcelain, soap, and crystal.

COLONIAL PATRONAGE.—What can be more monstrous than the personnel of the Ceylon Government. A

governor, with £7000 a year; a colonial secretary, with nearly £2000 a year, and who is perpetually travelling about the colony to get the £2 5s. a day allowed for travelling expenses; a colonial treasurer, with some £1500 a year; and a colonial auditor-general, with about £1500! The lord with £7000 a year is the Prime Minister's cousin; the Irishman with £1800 a year is the son-in-law of the Under-Secretary for the Colonies, Mr. Ben. Hawes; the colonial secretary used to be Lord Stanly's political jackall; and who the treasurer may be, the Lord knows!—*Correspondent of the Daily News.*

DUTY ON PAPER.—A return has just been published of the amount of duty paid upon paper in Great Britain and Ireland for each of the last ten years, from which it appears that, in 1847, 1848, and 1849, the sums paid were respectively £890,397, £799,459, and £867,120.

INCREASE AND DIMINUTION OF OFFICIAL SALARIES.—It appears by a parliamentary paper that the increase which has taken place within the year 1849 in the number of persons employed, or in the salaries, emoluments, allowances, and expenses in all public offices or departments, is as follows:—Increase in number of persons employed, 700 (638 in the Post-office); salaries, £20,652 7s. 2d.; emoluments, £689 7s. 9d.; retired allowances, £47,384; expenses, £7152 16s. 2d.; total, £75,875 11s. 1d. The diminution within the same period was as follows:—Number of persons, 1002; salaries, £98,800 13s. 8d.; emoluments, £17,128 7s.; retired allowances, £3,556 2s. 11d.; expenses, £24,078 14s. 9d.; total, £143,633 18s. 4d.

THE LATE RAJAH OF SATTARA.—It appears by a Parliamentary paper printed at the instance of Mr. Hume, that the amount disbursed on account of the family of the late ex Rajah of Sattara, from the period of his demise, in 1847, to the present time, was £40,845 2s. 7d. co. rupes. A further sum of 50,000 rupees was paid on the 30th of October, 1849, to R. J. Bae, the widow of the Rajah, for the funeral expenses of her husband.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.

(From the Registrar-General's Returns.)

It is gratifying to observe that the return for the week ending last Saturday exhibits a further decrease in the mortality. During the two previous weeks the deaths registered in the metropolitan districts were in succession, 1124, 893; they have now declined to 866. In the corresponding weeks of ten previous years (1840-9) the average number was 937, which being raised in the ratio of probable increase of population, becomes 1022; compared with which the number now returned shows a decrease of 156. In the same week of last year, before cholera became predominant, the deaths were 1089; the mean temperature, which was then unusually depressed, was lower than in last week by 12 degrees. Last week the deaths of 9 children and 2 adults were registered from smallpox (of which 3 occurred in the Smallpox-hospital, Camden town), indicating rather an increase in the disease, though it has not yet quite attained the average; 17 children died of measles, which is exactly the average; 36 died of hooping-cough, and 18 children and 1 adult of scarlatina, both complaints being less fatal than usual; 8 children died of croup, about the usual number; 35 persons of typhus, and 8 of erysipelas, both of which are near the average. Ten women died after childbirth, to 7 of whom "puerperal fever" is assigned as the cause of death; 22 persons, of whom about half were children, died of diarrhoea and dysentery; this number is double the average, and also exhibits an increase on each of the three weeks immediately preceding. A woman died of "purpura hemorrhagia"; and again, two persons of chorea. The two cases in which the latter disease, so seldom fatal, occurred, are thus recorded: at 8, Jeff's-place, St. John, Maylebone, on the 13th of April, the daughter of a coachmaker, aged 16 years, "chorea," on the 17th of April, at the London Hospital, to which she had been brought from Stepney, a female servant, aged 19 years, died of "chorea." It is worthy of remark that nine deaths have been registered in London from this cause during the last ten weeks, which is nearly double the number that usually occur in a year. Among diseases of the respiratory organs pneumonia and asthma now show a decrease; bronchitis has also declined, if compared with the amount of corresponding weeks in the last three years, but it is still in excess, in comparison with the mortality of the seven previous years.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29 504 in. The daily temperature varied little throughout the week; the mean temperature was on every day higher than on the same day on an average of seven years; the mean of the week was 48.9 deg., and was about 3 deg. higher than the average.

Ten Weeks	Week
of 183-19.	of 1840.
Zymotic Diseases	1068 ... 171
Dropsy, Cancer, and other diseases of uncertain or variable seat	545 ... 55
Tubercular Diseases	2665 ... 191
Diseases of the Brain, Spinal Marrow, Nerves, and Senses	1164 ... 113
Diseases of the Heart and Blood-vessels	284 ... 34
Diseases of the Lungs and of the other Organs of Respiration	1132 ... 141
Organ of the Stomach, Liver, and other Organs of Digestion	562 ... 44
Diseases of the Kidneys, &c.	95 ... 12
Catarrh, diseases of the Uterus, &c.	108 ... 9
Rheumatism, diseases of the Bones, Joints, &c.	89 ... 7
Diseases of the Skin, Cellular Tissue, &c.	9 ... 1
Malformations	11 ... 4
Premature Birth and Debility	200 ... 20
Atrophy	182 ... 14
Age	579 ... 42
Sudden Death	101 ... 15
Violence, Privation, Cold, and Intemperance	239 ... 17
Total (including unspecified causes)	9366 ... 866

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Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

FRIDAY.

The English Funds have been, upon the whole, very steady this week. The closing rates of Saturday, which were a slight improvement upon those of the past week, were fully maintained on Monday, and have remained pretty firm and fixed ever since. If there was any fluctuation it was on Tuesday, when a rumour reached 'Change that Lord Clarendon was about to displace Lord Palmerston at the Foreign Office which had the effect for the moment of causing a trifling rise; but on the following day prices were steady as before, and continued so yesterday, only very limited transactions taking place, though slightly improving towards the close. Consols have been done at 93½ to 96½ for money, 93½ to 9 for account. There has been considerable activity in the Reduced Three per Cents. at 94½ to 95, New Three-and-a-quarter per Cents. have been at 97 to 1, Long Annuities, 8½ to 3½, Exchequer Bills, 68s. to 70s. prem., Bank Stock, 206½, Indian Bonds, 92 to 93 prem., South Sea Old Annuities, 94½.

There has been scarcely any change in Foreign Securities, nor has the market been animated at all. The advance of the previous week in Peruvian Bonds has scarcely, perhaps, been maintained. The dealings of the week, which have been somewhat limited, include Peruvian, at 70½; Deferred ditto, at 29½ to 30; Mexican, at 25½ to 29; Buenos Ayres, at 52½ ex div.; Ecuador, at 31; Spanish Five per Cents., at 18½ to 1; Ditto Three per Cents., at 37½; Ditto Passive, at 3½; Ditto Coupons, at 9½ to 1; Danish Five per Cents., at 96½; Ditto Scrip, at 4½ prem.; Portuguese Four per Cents., at 32½ to 1; Russian Four-and-a-half per Cents., at 95½ to 1; Dutch Four per Cents., at 85½ to 1; Belgian Four-and-a-half per Cents., at 89½ to 90.

The price of gold in Paris has come down to the London standard, the premium having been 16 per mille—on Exchange at short, 25 55.

There has been upon the whole a tolerable steadiness of prices in the Railway Share Market, and but a limited amount of business transacted. An improvement took place on Wednesday in Great Westerns, North Westerns, and South Westerns, upon the prices of the preceding day, which were rather drooping.

The Corn Market has been again declining, and very heavy. Further importations have been made, and in greater quantities than was expected. This is accounted for on two grounds,—first, the Baltic ports being open again, and setting at liberty considerable accumulations; and, second, the prospect of abundant crops over the north of Europe is making holders anxious to get quit of their old stocks. The opinion prevails, therefore, that prices will be still lower; and this, it is believed, would have had a depressing influence over the funds this week had not counteracting causes been at work.

The foreign and colonial produce markets have only been flat. Little alteration in prices has occurred, except, perhaps, in certain descriptions of coffee, caused by some reports from Holland of considerable speculations going on. West India sugars have maintained last week's rates, though the sales have been rather limited.

The markets for manufactures have been oppressed, though, in Lancashire more particularly, prices have remained firm. The business done on foreign account has been principally in yarns. In the woollen markets of Yorkshire there has been an average business done in some fabrics, and in worsteds; but inactivity is, notwithstanding, complained of.

SATURDAY.

The English Stock Market closed last evening at a slight decline of prices; and there is no appearance this morning of much reaction.

AVERAGE PRICE OF SUGAR.

The average price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar, computed from the returns made in the week ending the 25th day of April, 1850, is 21s. 6d. per cwt.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 22, for the week ending on Saturday, the 20th of April, 1850.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

£ £

Notes issued ... 29,873,000

Government Debt, 11,015,100

Other Securities .. 2,984,900

Gold Coin and Bullion .. 15,663,123

Silver Bullion ... 202,877

£29,873,000 £29,873,000

BANCING DEPARTMENT.

£ £

Proprietors' Capital, 14,553,000

Rest, 3,086,246

Public Deposits (including Escapes, Savings, Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts) .. 4,677,318

Other Deposits .. 10,946,342

Seven-day and other Bills .. 1,158,635

£34,365,511 £34,365,511

Dated April 11, 1850.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(Closing Prices.)

Salaries: Mond. Tues. Wedns. Thurs. Friday

Bank Stock ... 206½ 207½ 206½ 207 207

3 per Cent. Reduced .. 95 94½ 95 95 95

3 per Cent. Cons. Anns. 96 95½ 96 96 96

3 per Cent. Anns. 1726—

3 per Ct. Cons., for Acc. 95½ 96 96 96 96

3½ per Cent. Anns. 97½ 96½ 97½ 97½ 97½

New 5 per Cents. ... 205 206 205 206 208

Long Annuities, 1860. 8½ 8 3-16 8½ 8 3-16

India Stock 10 per cent. 268 268 267 267 268

Ditto Bonds .. 92 p. 92 p. 92 p. 93 p. 95

Ex. Bills, 1000Z. June 2 71 p. 71 p. 68 p. 68 p. 70 p.

Ditto, 500Z. ... 71 p. 69 p. 70 p. 68 p. 68 p. —

Ditto, Small ... 71 p. 69 p. 70 p. 68 p. 68 p. —

FOREIGN FUNDS.

(Last Official Quotation during the Week ending Friday Evening.)

Austrian 5 per Cents. 93½

Austrian Bd., 4½ p. Ct. 93

Brazilian 5 per Cents. 85

Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cts. 85

Chilian 6 per Cents. 97½

Ecuador Bonds 3½

Danish 3 per Cents. ... 55½

Dutch 2½ per Cents. ... 55½

Russian 5 per Cents. ... 85½

French 5 p.C.Am. At Paris 98.25

3 p. Cts., Apr. 25 55.50

Mexican 5 per Ct. Acc. 28½

Small ... —

Neapolitan 5 per Cents. —

Peruvian 4 per Cents. 71

Portuguese 5 per Cent. 33½

4 per Cts. 33½

Annuities —

Russian 1822, 5 p. Cts. 95

Span. Actives, 5 p. Cts. 16½

Deferred .. 36½

BANKS.

Last Official Quotation for the Week ending Friday Evening.

RAILWAYS.

Caledonian ... 7½

Edinburgh and Glasgow 27

Eastern Counties ... 7½

Great Northern .. 5½

Great North of England 218

Great S. & W. (Ireland) 29

Great Western .. 50½

Hull and Selby ... 93

Lancashire and Yorkshire 33

Lancaster and Carlisle 52

Lond., Brighton & S. Coast 7½

London and Blackwall.. 4

London and N.-Western 101½

Midland ... 32

North British ... 7½

South-Eastern and Dover 13

South-Western ... 58

York, Newcas., & Berwick 12

York and North Midland 14½

DOCKS.

East and West India .. 142

London ... 118

St. Katharine ... 81

Australasian ... 24½

British North American 41½

Colonial ... 7½

London and Westminster 26

London Joint Stock 16½

National of Ireland 17½

National Provincial ... —

Provincial of Ireland 42½

Union of Australia 30

Union of London 12

MINES.

Bolanos ... —

Brazilian Imperial ... —

Ditto, St. John del Rey ... —

Cobre Copper ... —

MISCELLANEOUS.

Australian Agricultural 16

General Steam ... 27

Penins. & Oriental Steam 80

Royal Mail Steam ... 53

South Australian ... 19

GRAIN, Mark-lane, April 26.

Wheat, R. New 36s. to 38s.

Fine ... 38—39

Old ... 40—41

White ... 37—39

Fine ... 40—41

Superior New 45—48

Rye ... 22—23

Barley ... 16—17

Malting ... 22—24

Malt, Ord. ... 45—47

Fine ... 47—50

Peas, Hog... 22—23

Maple ... 25s. to 26s.

White ... 22—24

Boilers ... 21—25

Beans, Ticks ... 22—23

Old ... 25—26

Indian Corn ... 24—27

Oats, Feed ... 14—15

Fine ... 15—16

Poland ... 16—17

Fine ... 17—18

Potato ... 15—16

Fine ... 16—17

Fine ... 18—19

GENERAL AVERAGE PRICE OF GRAIN.

WEEK ENDING APRIL 26.

Imperial General Weekly Average.

Wheat ... 37s. 10d.

Barley ... 22 8

Oats ... 15 1

Rye ... 21s. 6d.

Beans ... 23 9

Peas ... 24 9

Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.

Wheat ... 38s. 0d.

Barley ... 23 2

Oats ... 15 1

Rye ... 21s. 11d.

Beans ... 23 10

Peas ... 25 9

Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.

Town-made per sack 37s. to 40s.

Seconds 31—37

Essex and Suffolk, on board ship 30—32

Norfolk and Stockton 28—30

American 23—24

Canadian 20—22

Wheaten Bread, 6d. to 7d. the lb. loaf. Households 4d to 5d.

FLOUR.

Town-made per sack 37s. to 40s.

Seconds 31—37

Essex and Suffolk, on board ship 30—32

Norfolk and Stockton 28—30

American 23—24

Canadian 20—22

Wheaten Bread, 6d. to 7d. the lb. loaf. Households 4d to 5d.

BUTCHERS' MEAT.

NEWGATE and LEADENHALL.* SMITHFIELD.

BEEF. 2 6 to 3 2 2 4 to 3

MUTTON. 2 6—3 6 3 0—4 1

VEAL. 2 4—4 0 3 0—4 1

PORK. 2 8—4 0 3 6—4 2

LAMB. 4 8—5 8 5 0—6 0

To sink the offal, per 8lb.

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

Friday.

Beasts 1243

Sheep 8550

Calves 347

Pigs 240

MONDAY.

Butter—Best Fresh, 8s. to 12s. per doz.

Carow, £3 10s. to £3 16s. per cwt.

Bacon, Irish per cwt. 40s. to 46s.

Cheese, Cheshire 46—56

Derby, Plain 46—54

Hams, York 60—70

Eggs, French, per dozen, 5s. 3d. to 6s. 6d.

PROVISIONS.

Butter—Best Fresh, 8s. to 12s. per doz.

Carow, £3 10s. to £3 16s. per cwt.

Bacon, Irish per cwt.

pans, Belvedere-road, Lambeth; as far as regards D. Nibbett and J. Macdonald, Offley, Webber, Forrester, and Co., London, Liverpool, Manchester, Cheltenham, Birmingham, and Bristol, or elsewhere in England; and Offleys, Webber, Forrester, and Cramp, Oporto, Hull, York, and Newcastle-upon-Tyne, wine-merchants.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.—Hannan, Little Britain, tailoress; first div. of 5*l.* on Thursday, May 2, and two subsequent Thursdays; Stanfeld, Basinghall-street—Walley and Hardwick, Oxford-street, linendrapers; second div. of 2*s.* on Thursday, May 2, and two subsequent Thursdays; Stanfeld, Basinghall-street—West, Fleet-street, medicine-vendor; second and final div. of 7*d.* on Saturday next, and three subsequent Saturdays; Groom, Ashchurch-lane—Heyward, Torquay, grocer; first div. of 9*d.* on any Tuesday after the 23rd inst.; Hirtzel, Exeter-Hodge, Colyton, Devonshire, currier; first div. of 4*s.* on Tuesday or Friday after the 30th inst.; Hernaman Exeter-Daniel, formerly of Trellisick, Cornwall, copper-smelter; her div. of 5*s.* on any Tuesday or Friday after April 30; Hernaman, Exeter—Muckleston Jim, Shrewsbury, grocer; first div. of 2*s.* 4*d.* any Thursday; Whitmore, Birmingham-Burton and Bulfin, Dublin, drapers; first div. of 4*s.* 9*d.* (on new proofs) on Saturday, April 27, and three subsequent Saturdays; Edwards, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street—Wright, Pendleton, Lancashire, dyer; first div. of 5*d.* on Tuesday, April 30, or any subsequent Tuesday; Pott, Manchester—Hesketh, Manchester straw-bonnet-dealer; second div. of 1*d.* (and 2*s.* 7*d.* on new proofs) on Tuesday, May 7, or any subsequent Tuesday; Fraser, Manchester—Hague and Shatwell, Manchester, commission-agents; first div. of 1*s.* 3*d.* (on new proofs), on Tuesday, May 7, or any subsequent Tuesday; Fraser, Manchester.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—P. Mann, Leeds, corn factor.

BANKRUPTES.—W. CHITTENDEN, Tarlington-place, and Church-street, Paddington, draper, to surrender May 7, June 7; solicitor, Mr. Cooke, King-street, Cheapside; official assignee, Mr. Whitmore, Basinghall-street—C. VNER, Bonbridge-wells, builder, May 7, June 4; solicitors, Messrs. Smith, Stebbing, and Crot, Basinghall-street; and Messrs. Stenning and Carnell, Tombridge; official assignee, Mr. Edwards, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street—J. PATTISON, Liverpool, grocer, May 10 and 31; solicitor, Mr. Tyre, Liverpool, official assignee, Mr. Bird, Liverpool—J. STANFORD and H. BANNISTER, Halesowen, Worcestershire, brickmakers, May 13, June 3; solicitors, Messrs. Smith and Jones, Birmingham; official assignee, Mr. Valpy, Birmingham—A. S. CORNICK, Bristol, timber-dealer, May 8, June 5; solicitor, Mr. Brittan, Bristol; official assignee, Mr. Arman, Bristol—J. POWELL, Cliflow, Radnorshire, cattle-dealer, May 8, June 5; solicitors, Mr. Pugh, Brecon, and Messrs. M. Britton and sons, Bristol; official assignee, Mr. Miller, Bristol.

DIVIDENDS.—May 17, J. Weeks, Ryde, Isle of Wight, grocer—May 17, J. H. Theobald and J. Church, Colchester and Deptford, coke manufacturers—May 17, J. Reed, late of Bermonsey-street, Southwark, hop merchant—May 27, B. Lord, Blackbourne, coal-dealer—May 27, T. Procter, Preston, spindle-maker—May 27, H. Rotherham, Chesterfield, plumber—May 29, J. Y. Ashton, Liverpool, builder—May 17, G. Evans, Tallylyn, Merionethshire, cattle-dealer—May 23, W. Miles, Worcester, stock-broker—May 17, J. H. Gaskell, East Challow and Harrington, brewer.

CERTIFICATES.—To be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary on the day of meeting—May 17, H. J. Stacey, Crosby-row, Walworth-road, grocer—May 18, J. Sizer, Friday-street, Cheapside, warehouseman—May 21, H. C. Gavston, Upper Dorset-place, Chapman-road, grocer—May 18, W. Woodbridge, Mincing-lane, colonial broker—May 21, T. Ellen, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, corn merchant—May 17, W. Wallace and G. Gordon, Sunderland, butcher—May 20, L. B. Choffin, Fritstall and Bath, bookseller—May 27, T. Sleighnethorn, Scarborough, partner—May 17, J. Goughborough, Manchester, manufacturer—May 18, Savory, Hereford, plumber—May 29, L. Perrins, Borthwick, Devonshire, innkeeper.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—R. Ritchie, Woodlands, by Perth, farmer, May 1, 30—A. Meldrum, Dundee, clerk, May 5, 27—J. Notman, Edinburgh, grocer, May 3, 33—A. Christie, Cluny, Aberdeenshire, farmer, May 4, 24—J. Spence, Edinburgh, tavern-keeper, April 30, May 21—J. Angus, late of Cummings-town, merchant, May 2, 30—S. and J. Rathbone, Portobello, potters, May 3, 30.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

On the 19th inst., at Penshurst Rectory, the wife of the Reverend William Green, of a son.

The 22nd inst., at Edgbaston, the wife of the Reverend Edward Lillingston, of a son.

The 22nd inst., at Itehenor, near Chichester, Sussex, the lady of the Reverend Stennin Johnson, of a daughter.

On the 23rd inst., at Upper Seymour-street, Portman-square, Mr. Henry Smith, of a son.

On the 10th inst., at Cyfarthfa Castle, Glamorganshire, the wife of Robert Thompson, Crawshaw, Esq., of a daughter.

On the 18th inst., at the Rectory, Hertfordbury, Herts, the wife of the Honourable and Reverend Godolphin Hastings, of a son.

On the 21st inst., at the Rectory, Hope Mansell, Herefordshire, the wife of the Reverend B. Swift, of a daughter.

On the 21st inst., at Devonport-street, Hyde-park, the wife of James Arthur Morgan, Esq., of a son.

On the 19th inst., Mrs. Godfrey Turner, Vale-place, Hammersmith-road, of a son.

On the 23rd inst., at the residence of the Dowager Viscountess Torrington, the Honourable Mrs. Hall, of a daughter.

On the 23rd inst., at Berkely-square, the lady of John Martin, Esq., M.P., of a son and heir.

On the 23rd inst., at Chesham-street, the wife of Lieutenant-Colonel the Honourable G. Grantham Scott, Scots Fusilier Guards, of a son.

On the 24th inst., at Chester-square, the lady of A. L. Goddard, Esq., M.P., of a daughter.

On the 23rd inst., at Dunbleton-hall, the lady of Edward Holland, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 22nd instant, at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, by the Hon. and Reverend C. L. Courtney and the Reverend W. J. E. Bennett, Francis R. Wegg Prosser, Esq., M.P., of a son, and C. C. Somers Cooks, second daughter of the Earl and Countess Somers.

On the 14th of March last, at Candy, Island of Ceylon, by the Reverend Dr. Simons, Algernon Robinson Sewell, Esq., H. M. Fifteenth Regiment, youngest son of the late Hon. J. Sewell, Chief Justice of Lower Canada, to Henrietta Caroline, third daughter of J. J. Staples, Esq., District Judge of Candy.

On the 18th instant, at St. Ann's, Kew, by the Reverend John Howland Ward, M.A., and at St. Elizabeth's Catholic Chapel, Bishamton, by the Reverend J. G. Wenham, chaplain, James Reddin, Esq., of Prince Edward Island, to Louise Anna, youngest daughter of John Matthews, Esq., of Kew green.

On the 22nd instant, at St. Martin Outwich, Bishopsgate-street, by the Reverend T. Jones, W.A., the Reverend J. J. Ellis, rector of St. Martin Outwich, and brother of Sir Henry Ellis, of the British Museum, to E. F. Gilbert.

On Saturday, the 20th instant, at St. Mark's, Kennington, by

the Reverend Charlton Lane, M.A., Samuel Perkins, Esq., of Worcester, Northamptonshire, to Clara Gunter, youngest daughter of the late John Neal, Esq., New North-road, London.

On the 18th instant, at Byfleet, Surrey, by the Reverend Christopher Dunkin Francis, the Reverend William Calder, incumbent of the church of the Holy Trinity, Portman son of the late James Calder, Esq., of Liverpool, to Kate Bennett, youngest daughter of the late Henry Francis, Esq., of Maize-hill, Greenwich.

On the 18th instant, at Brighton Church, by the Reverend Augustus Henry Morgan, M.A., George Augustine Morgan, Esq., Ninth Regiment, eldest son of Captain Morgan, formerly Seventh Fusiliers of Golden Grove, Flintshire, to Emily Jane, eldest daughter of the Reverend J. T. Maine, of Brighton-Wood, Hampshire.

On the 18th instant, at St. George's, Hanover-square, the Reverend George Bosquet, of Guillaids Oak, Sussex, to Louisa, second daughter of Captain W. B. Dashwood, R.N., of Lyndhurst, Hants.

On the 23rd inst., at St. George's Church, Hanover-square, by the Reverend Philip Dodd, rector of Penshurst, the Honourable Philip Sidney, only son of Lord de L'Isle and Dudley, to Mary, only child of the late Sir William Feulks, of Ingoldsby Manor, in the county of York, Baronet.

On the 23rd inst., at St. Peter's Church, Pimlico, by the Reverend Henry Hildyard, Charles Wilton Goad, Esq., Fifth Dragoon Guards, to Esther Sophia, third surviving daughter of the late Colonel Hildyard, of Flintham-hall, county of Notts, and Winest add-hall, Yorkshire.

On the 23rd inst., at St. George's Church, Hanover-square by the Reverend Albert Alston, M.A., curate, Charles Frederick Moore, Esq., of Cadogan-court, near Tiverton, Devon, to Caroline Matilda, only child of the late Lieutenant-General the Honourable George Murray.

On the 23rd inst., at All Saints, Maidstone, by the Reverend William Milton, incumbent of Hallwall, St. Paul's, Lancashire, John Milton, Esq., eldest son of the late Henry Milton, Esq., of Heckfield-lodge, West Brompton, to Blanche Beaufoy, eldest daughter of Meyrick Field, Esq., of Maidstone.

On the 23rd inst., at St. George, at the Roman Catholic Chapel, Moorfields, by the Reverend George Rolfe, assisted by the Reverend Sheshon, James Bans, Esq., eldest son of James Bans, Esq., of Lower Smith-street, Northampton-square, to Mary Joseph Canneaux, second daughter of Mr. L. M. Canneaux, Gould-square, Crutchedfriars, London.

On the 23rd inst., at St. Neots, by the Reverend Professor Philip Smith, B.A., brother-in-law of the bridegroom, the Reverend Frederic Sherrard Basden, of Potton, Bedfordshire, to Julia, only daughter of W. Islip, Esq., of St. Neots, Huntingdonshire.

On the 23rd inst., at St. John's, Paddington, by the Reverend John Tyrwhitt Drake, Lieutenant-Colonel St. Quentin, 17th Lancers, second son of the late William Thomas St. Quintin, of Sampson-hall, Yorkshire, Esq., to Amy Elizabeth, daughter of the late George Henry Cherry, of Denford, Berkshire, Esq.

DEATHS.

On the 19th inst., at his residence, South Lambeth, aged 81, Richard Brook, Esq., of the Poultry, Deputy of the Ward of Cheap, and senior member of the Corporation of the City of London.

On the 19th inst., at Dr. Wilson's, Great Malvern, Worcestershire, Anthony Ludlam, of 159, Oxford-street, a-ed 44.

On the 22nd inst., at his house in Grosvenor-street, the Right Honourable and Reverend Lord Frederick Beauchler, D.D., youngest son of Aubrey, fifth Duke of St. Albans.

On the 1st inst., at Cairo, on his way to England, Captain Andrew Nepean Aitchison, Thirteenth Regiment Bombay Army, eldest son of the late Major-General Aitchison, of Ryde, Isle of Wight.

On the 21st inst., Sunday morning, at the house of his father-in-law, Lieutenant-General the Honourable William Henry Gardner, John James, Esq., in the 33rd year of his age.

On the 22nd inst., at Torquay, the Reverend Charles Fletcher, of Southwell, Nottinghamshire, in the 59th year of his age.

On the 19th ult., at the seat of his son-in-law, Viscount Seaham, M.P., Brynypys, near Overton, Flintshire, in the 81st year of his age, Sir John Edwards, Bart., Greenhill, Machynlleth, and Battle, bookseller—May 27, T. Sleighnethorn, Scarborough, partner—May 17, J. Goughborough, Manchester, manufacturer—May 18, Savory, Hereford, plumber—May 29, L. Perrins, Borthwick, Devonshire, innkeeper.

On the 19th inst., at Deer-park, near Honiton, Isabella Mary, the only surviving daughter of William M. Smythe, Esq., and niece of the Earl of Wicklow.

On the 22nd inst., at the residence of his aunt, the Countess of Howth, of malignant typhus fever, the Reverend Arthur Burke, Curate of St. Catherine's Church, and only surviving son of Major and Lady Matilda Burke, of Queensberry, in the county of Galway.

On the 22nd inst., Margaret Elizabeth, relief of Lieutenant-General Briereton, of New Abbey, county of Kildare, aged 67.

On the 21st inst., aged 20 days, Gervais Clement, son of the Reverend Sir George L. Glynn, Bart., of Ewell, Surrey.

SOILED LINENS.—Manufacturers' Sample.

Pieces Soiled by showing to the Trade.—£8000 worth of SOILED LINENS, from Dublin, have been bought in one lot by BROOKS and CO., in the Borough.

These linens, from which extensive orders have been taken, are the best, being the specimen-cloth of such well-known makers as Bennet, Knox, Beverage, &c., and are now to be sold at half the price of the same goods when clean.

Irish linens, 20 yards for 12*s.* 6*d.*; superior Irish linen, 20 yards for 21*s.*; finest Calecaries, 26 yards for 25*s.*, positively worth 1*s.* 9*d.* per yard when clean; damask table cloths, two yards square, from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 9*d.*, those at 4*s.* 9*d.* being double damask three yards long; rich damask, 6*s.* 6*d.* each; three yards long double damask, 1*s.* each; five yards long damask, 12*s.*; five yards splendid damask (for the table of the nobility), 1*s.* each; table napkins, from 2*s.* 6*d.* the dozen; those at 10*s.* 6*d.* the dozen being nearly a yard square.

There are also about 2000 single pairs of fine linen sheets, from two to three yards wide, from 4*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* the pair, those at 1*s.* being three yards wide and seven yards long; also duvets, diapers, towelling, &c., all subject to the same reduction. The above linens are only slightly soiled, and uninjured for wear, which is the best third year that Brooks and Co. have purchased these samples. Early application should be made, as numerous inquiries have been made by former purchasers as to the next sale of these goods.

THOMAS BROOKS and CO., 105 and 106, High-street, Borough, one door from King-street, and three minutes walk from the London-bridge Railway Terminus.

N.B.—Samples sent to any part of the town, or in the country, if written for.

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF ROYALTY, AND THE AUTHORITY OF THE FACULTY.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES—A CERTAIN REMEDY FOR DISORDERS OF THE PULMONARY ORGANS—IN DIFFICULTY OF BREATHING—REDUNDANCY OF PHLEGM—IN INCIDENT CONSUMPTION (OF WHICH COUGH IS THE MOST POSITIVE INDICATION) THEY ARE OF UNERRING EFFICACY. IN ASTHMA, AND IN WINTER COUGH, THEY HAVE NEVER BEEN KNOWN TO FAIL.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES are free from every deleterious ingredient; they may, therefore, be taken at all times by the most delicate female and by the youngest child; while the Public Speaker and the Professional Singer will find them invaluable in allaying the hoarseness and irritation incidental to vocal exertion, and consequently a powerful auxiliary in the production of Modestion and Elocution.

Prepared and sold in Boxes, 1*s.* 1*d.*, and Tins, 2*s.* 9*d.*, 4*s.* 6*d.*, and 10*s.* 6*d.* each, by THOMAS KEATING, Chemist, &c., No. 79, St. Paul's Churchyard, London.

Sold Retail by all Druggists and Patent Medicine Venders in the Kingdom.

N.B.—To prevent spurious imitations, please to observe that the words "KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES" are engraved on the Government Stamp of each box.

IMPORTANT TESTIMONIAL.

Cure of Asthma of several years' standing.

"Caercross, near St. Edmund, Gloucestershire,

"March 29, 1850.

"SIR.—Having been troubled with Asthma for several years, I could find no relief from any medicine whatever until I was induced about two years ago to try a box of your valuable Lozenges, and found such relief from them that I am determined for the future never to be without a box of them in the house, and will do all in my power to recommend them to my friends.

"If you consider the above Testimonial of any advantage, you are quite at liberty to make what use of it you please.

"I am, Sir, your most obliged servant,

"W. J. TATE,"

79, St. Paul's Churchyard.

COMPLAIN NO MORE OF INDIGESTION.

SUFFER NO LONGER FROM LIVER COMPLAINTS—WALTER TRAVIS, M.D., F.R.S.

Medical-hall, Manchester, having discovered a safe and really effectual remedy for indigestion, Bilious and Liver Complaints, the result of a singularly successful experiment, recently made, and by which he has cured a considerable number of patients, whose cases he had previously considered hopeless, or very doubtful; amongst whom are several individuals of distinction, who were languishing under the withering effects of indigestion and affection of the Liver. He has determined to offer it to the public at the lowest possible charge, and will supply the remedy to persons applying at the Medical-hall for 2*s.* 6*d.*; or to parties residing at a distance, it will be forwarded, postage free, with the most complete directions, to any part of the United Kingdom, on sending thirty-six postage stamps to Dr. Walter Travis, 80, Travis-street, Manchester.

The following are selected from a great number of testimonials:—

Dr. Guy says, "I have adopted your remedy in several cases of Constipation (Indigestion) which have lately come under my treatment; and also in one very bad case of Liver Complaint, and I am happy to add with the most satisfactory results."

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